

---

---

# A HISTORICAL ATLAS OF KARNATAKA

**H. SHASHIDHAR**

*of the Indian Administrative Service  
and*

**N. SREENIVASA MURTHY**

*Geographer of the DCO, Karnataka*

DIRECTORATE OF CENSUS OPERATIONS  
KARNATAKA

---

---

Maps included in this Atlas are based upon the Survey of India map with the permission of the Surveyor General of India.

The territorial waters of India extend into the Sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.

© Government of India copyright, 2004.

© Registrar General of India.

The boundaries of India /State /Union Territory are shown according to the present jurisdiction, existed at the time of 2001 census.

The map shows the *greatest* extent of the dynasty and the boundaries are marked *approximately*.

District boundaries and names are given only for Karnataka.

District names are shown in red.

Old names and modern names of the places are shown in italics and regular fonts respectively.

The names of the other contemporary *dynasties and rulers* are shown in brown letters.

Data Product Number 29-017-2001-Cen-Book
---

# Contents

	Pages
Foreword	5
About the Atlas	7
Acknowledgement	9
Bibliography	10
Antiquity of Karnataka	11
The dynasties and rulers in Karnataka on the time scale	16
Dynasties and rulers in Karnataka and a few of their socio-cultural characteristics	18
<b>Text and Maps</b>	
Karnataka, 2001	32
Map - 1	33
Administrative Divisions of Karnataka, 2001	34
Map - 2	35
Physiography of Karnataka	36
Map - 3	37
Beginnings - Pre-historic sites of Karnataka	38
Map - 4	39
The Satavahanas	40
Map - 5	41
The Kadambas of Banavasi	42
Map - 6	43
The Gangas of Talakad	44
Map - 7	45
The Chalukyas of Badami	46
Map - 8	47
The Rashtrakutas of Malkhed	48
Map - 9	49
The Chalukyas of Kalyan	50
Map - 10	51
The Cholas of Thanjavur	52
Map - 11	53
The Seunas or Yadavas of Devagiri	54
Map - 12	55
The Hoysalas of Dorasamudra	56
Map - 13	57
The Vijayanagara Empire	58
Map - 14	59
The Bahmani Kingdom	60
Map - 15	61
The Adil Shahis of Bijapur	62
Map - 16	63

The Barid Shahis of Bidar	64
Map - 17	65
The Nadaprabhus of Yelahanka	66
Map - 18	67
The Nayakas of Keladi	68
Map - 19	69
The Odeyars of Mysore	70
Map - 20	71
The Marathas	72
Map - 21	73
The Mughals in Deccan	74
Map - 22	75
The Nayakas of Chitradurga	76
Map - 23	77
The rule of Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan	78
Map - 24	79
Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan	80
Map - 25	81
The Odeyars of Mysore	82
Map - 26	83
Anti British Uprisings	84
Map - 27	85
The Desais of Kittur	86
Map - 28	87
The British Rule in Mysore state	88
Map - 29	89
The formation of Administrative Divisions in 1857 A.D	90
Map - 30	91
Again the Odeyars of Mysore	92
Map - 31	93
Kannada speaking people under different Administrative Units, 1912	94
Map - 32	95
Re-organisation of Mysore state in 1956 A.D - with 19 districts	96
Map - 33	97
The Karnataka state - Formation of new districts from 1986 A.D to 1997 A.D	98
Map - 34	99



# Foreword

The Indian Census organisation has a rich tradition of undertaking projects involving study of villages, towns, tribes, handicrafts and several other subjects of demographic importance. These studies are taken up generally during the inter-censal period. Having conducted the 2001 Census as fairly, completely, comprehensively and successfully as possible, several projects for study are being finalised by the office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, Government of India and the Directorates of Census Operations in States and Union territories. Incidentally, the Directorates have also been informed to prepare and present through maps, the administrative divisions in their respective States and Union territories of India since 1871. ***A Historical Atlas of Karnataka*** is one such project initiated and completed by the Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka.

The Atlas is the result of two years of intensive work carried out by the authors. Here is an attempt to present through specially created maps to demonstrate as to 'how history influenced the change of geographical boundaries of a region'. The Atlas is intended to present the history of Karnataka through series of specially coloured maps and accompanying text. It presents the history of Karnataka right from 250 BC to the present times in a chronological order. The form of presentation is through brief write ups and coloured maps on each dynasty and ruler who ruled parts or whole of Karnataka from either within the present limits or from outside the state. The text though not exhaustive, records major historical facts pertaining to each dynasty and its ruler and their influence in shaping up from time to time this present day of Karnataka

There are specially created 34 coloured maps, each showing the greatest extent of rule under each dynasty or ruler. The presentation of a map on each dynasty along with text on opposite pages allows the reader for an easy cross reference. This work demonstrates the inhouse talent available in the Census Directorate to take up subjects for study as varied and diverse as this present one. This carefully prepared and presented work by the authors, perhaps being the first of its kind, will fulfil the needs of the general reader and the student of history and geography in particular alike. This Volume has been prepared under the research guidance of the eminent historians and professionals and every effort has been made to compile and present the facts and related maps accurately to the extent possible with an honest intention to prevent errors creeping in such an academic work.

The authors Sri H. Shashidhar IAS, Director of Census Operations, Karnataka and Sri N. Srinivasa Murthy, Geographer, in particular and the Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka in general, deserve all appreciation for their invaluable and useful contribution.

2A, Mansingh Road  
New Delhi - 110 011

Jayant Kumar Banthia  
of the Indian Administrative Service  
Registrar General and Census  
Commissioner, India





## About the Atlas

Karnataka provided the stage for many famous dynasties and rulers in Indian history. The history of Karnataka though documented exceptionally well in the written form, it is yet to be supplemented and supported by specially created maps. Even the few available maps are rather sketchy and approximate. There has been a long felt need to present the history and geography of Karnataka through maps with reasonable accuracy and precision. The publication, **A Historical Atlas of Karnataka** is the first step in that direction.

It may be of interest to know the background which necessitated the taking up of this work on hand. While publishing the provisional population figures of the Census of India, 2001, a chapter on the history of growth and development of Bangalore was planned and incorporated in Paper 2, containing the rural and urban distribution of population in Karnataka. The preparation of the map showing the geographical and population growth of Bangalore from 1537 A.D. to 2001, posed certain difficulties. Barring a few, most of the maps available for the earlier periods are rather sketchy, leaving the jurisdiction of Bangalore at different points of times rather vague. Several rounds of discussion with experts and endless visits to the State Archives and libraries helped in determining the jurisdiction of Bangalore at different points of time with reasonable accuracy. This enabled the Map Section of this Directorate to bring out an excellent map showing the jurisdiction of Bangalore at different periods in history. The map and the written text on Bangalore have enhanced the value and utility of Paper 2 of 2001 Census. The Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Sri Jayant Kumar Banthia, while commending the work, informed all the Directorates in the country to take up similar study of their respective state capitals. The present media and the elite data users also recognised and appreciated the effort. Motivated by this appreciation and encouragement, we in this Directorate decided to take up a study on the evolution of Karnataka from an historical and a geographical perspective covering from pre-historic to the present times. The result of this effort is the present publication.

The Atlas attempts to present through maps in a chronological order, the rule and extent of various dynasties and rulers, who ruled from within and from outside the present jurisdiction of Karnataka in the recorded period of history i.e., from 250 B.C. to the present times. As the information on other historical aspects such as administration, socio-economic condition etc. are available elsewhere in depth and detail, these were not within the scope of this work and hence are not discussed and included here. The main features of the Atlas are the following :

An article, **The Antiquity of Karnataka** written by Dr. T.V. Venkatachala Shastri in Kannada, translated by Dr. K. Krishna Murthy, is reproduced here. It helps, in understanding and appreciating the beginnings of Karnataka in a proper perspective and as well provides the context for the present work.

It shows how Karnataka's history influenced the change of its geography with particular reference to administrative divisions and their boundaries.

The formation of administrative divisions after the fall of Tipu Sultan since 1799 A.D and again after the re-organisation of States, i.e. since 1956 is also incorporated with sufficient details.

In the maps, the greatest or the largest extent of dynasty or ruler is superimposed on the present jurisdiction of Karnataka and the neighbouring states.

A brief write up on the history along with map is incorporated on the left and right hand pages (opposite pages) respectively for easy reading and cross referencing. At the bottom of each map the ancient along with their modern names of places are given in italics and regular fonts respectively.

A statement showing the period, name, approximate area under rule, important rulers, royal emblem, capitals, place of origin, religion and faith followed, gods and deities worshipped, scripts and inscriptions used and languages spoken, major literary works and authors and important relics of art and architecture is given to add flavour and depth for this work which covers over two thousand years of history.

The duration of rule of several dynasties and rulers is also presented on the time scale. From this it is evident that different parts of Karnataka were ruled by different dynasties or rulers at the same point in time.

With regard to historical facts, the dependence is solely on the published literature and advice of experts in the field. The bibliography gives the major sources of information for preparing the text. The text being brief mainly discusses the places and extent along with boundaries occupied by various dynasties and rulers. To determine the extent of rule and then to demarcate the boundaries, all places whether small or big mentioned in the available literature, were first searched and then located on the map. In short, the maps were prepared based on the information available in the written text. The contribution of the Directorate limits to the extent of writing appropriate explanatory text for each map and creation of colored maps using latest cartographic methods. Putting these together in one place in itself is a challenge to an organisation like Census whose domain, primarily is demography and not history. We alone are responsible for any inaccuracies that might have inadvertently crept in.

The Atlas being the first of its kind, an humble attempt, it is hoped, would serve as a ready reference book, the value and utility of which will have to be assessed by professionals, experts, researchers, students and others in the field. Suggestions, comments and criticisms if any, are welcome.

H. Shashidhar  
*of the Indian Administrative Service*  
Director of Census Operations, Karnataka

and

N.Srinivasa Murthy MA, B.Ed., LLB.  
Geographer



# Acknowledgement

The Directorate of Census Operations, Karnataka gratefully acknowledges with thanks the contributions of the following ;

Inspiration, Guidance and Support

**Jayant Kumar Banthia, IAS**

*Registrar General and Census Commissioner India,  
New Delhi.*

Concept, Design, Co-ordination and  
Supervision

**H. Shashidhar, IAS**

*Director of Census Operations, Karnataka, Bangalore*

Research Guidance

**Dr. Suryanath U. Kamath**

*Former Professor, Dept. of History,  
Bangalore University  
Former Director, State Archives  
Former Chief Editor, State Gazetteer,  
Govt. of Karnataka,  
Recipient of the Karnataka State Sahitya Academy  
Award*

**Dr. S. Nagaraju**

*Former Professor, Dept. of History,  
Hyderabad University, Andhra Pradesh*

**Dr. M. Chidananda Murthy**

*Former Professor, Dept. of Kannada, Bangalore  
University,  
Eminent Writer and Scholar,  
Recipient of Pampa Award Instituted by  
Karnataka State*

**H. Jayadeva**

*Managing Director,  
Resource communication pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.*

Cartographic guidance

**Dr. R. P. Singh**

*Deputy Registrar General, Map*

Scrutiny and Editing

**S.R. Raghavendra Rao**

*Deputy Director of Census, Operations*

Administrative Support

**V. Gopinathan**

*Assistant Director of Census, Operations*

Cartographic Supervision

**Mrs. M.G. Mangala**

*Research Officer*

Cartographic Work

**N. Sreenivasa Murthy, Geographer**

**Shivakant Shekhar, Draughtsman**

Printing

**R. Nagendra Prasad, SI Grade III**

Preparation of Camera Ready Copy

**N.K. Ravishankar, DEO Grade B**

**Veeralakshmi Bokka, CA**

Assistance

**Mrs. A.A. Geetha, Sr. Draughtsman**

**Mrs. M.S. Poornima, Sr. Draughtsman**

**Rajendra Kumar, Sr. Draughtsman**

**M.S. Manjunatha, Compiler**

**N. Pandurangarao, Chowkidar**

# Bibliography

The following publications are the major source of information. The authors are indebted to them.

## *An Advance History of India*

R.C. Majumdar, H. C. Raychoudhari and Kalikinkar Datta

## *An Historical Atlas of Indian Peninsula*

C. Collin Davies, Oxford University

## *Ancient Indian History*

T. P. Joshi

## *Avalokana*

Govt. of Karnataka Publication

## *The Antiquity of Karnataka*

Dr. T. V. Venkatachala Shastri

Translated by. Dr. K Krishnamurthy

## *The Cambridge History of India*

Cambridge University

## *A Concise History of Karnataka*

Dr. Suryanath U. Kamath

## *General Report Part I – A, volume XI*

Census of India 1961 publication

## *Glimpses of Karnataka*

M. V. Krishna Rao

## *The Heritage of Karnataka*

R. S. Mugali

## *A History of Karnataka*

P. B. Desai

## *A History of India, Volume I*

Romila Thapar, 1966

## *A History of India, Volume II*

Percival Spear, 1970

## *Historical Sketches of the South India, in an attempt to trace the History of Mysore*

Lieut. Colonel Wilks, 1810

## *A History of India*

Michael Edwards

## *A Historical Atlas of South Asia*

Joseph and Schertzburg

## *History of Mysore Vol. I and II*

Mark Wilks

## *Imperial Gazetteer of India, 1908*

## *A History of South India*

K. A. Nilkantha Sastry

## *Kannataka Parampare, part I & II*

Dept. of Kannada & Culture, Govt. of Karnataka Publication

## *Kannada Nadu – Nudi Sanskruti*

Dr. Suryanath U. Kamath

## *Kannada Vishaya Vishwakosha*

Kannada Prasaraanga, Mysore University, 1987

## *Kannada Nadina Charitre Part I*

B. M. Shreekanthiah, Kannada Sahitya Parishath, 1953

## *Karnataka*

Published by the Directorate of Information and Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka through MSIL

## *Karnataka Through the Ages*

Govt. of Mysore publication, 1968

## *Maharashtra Gazetteer of Satavahanas*

V. V. Mirashi

## *Map of the Dominions of Mysore in 1704*

By Lient col. Mackenzie

## *The Map of Indian Empire*

Imperial Gazetteer vol. XXV 1909

## *Moghals Administration in Deccan under Nizam Rule*

Dr. Nayeem

## *Modern History of India*

V. D. Mahajan

## *Mysore Kaipidi*

Mysore Vidhyashala publication, 1937

## *Mysore Gazetteer*

C. Hayavadana Rao

## *Mysore Gazetteer, Vol. II, Part II Historical*

C. Hayavadana Rao, 1930

## *Mysore Gazetteer, 1897*

B. Lewis Rice

## *Mysore Gazetteer, 1927-1930*

Revised edition C. Hayavadana Rao

## *Provisional Population Totals Paper I (India)*

Census of India, 2001

## *Popular Culture in Karnataka*

Masti Venkatesha Iyengar

## *Satavahanas and the Western Kshatrapas*

Ajayamitra Shastri

## *Satavahanas and their successors*

Dr. Ramachandraiah

## *Southern Asia Series – Mysore and other adjoining British districts and territories*

Mysore Gazetteer 1925

## *Storm over Seringapatnam*

P. J. Fernandes



# The Antiquity of Karnataka

Dr. T.V. Venkatachala Shastri

We all know that the customary name of our native region is Karna(na)taka. When did this name first come into vogue, in what written sources and in what senses? This is a question at once interesting and intriguing. It may be briefly stated as follows - According to our present state of knowledge, the word begins to appear first in literary sources in the alternate forms – *Karnataka* and *Karnataka*. We know that in the *Mahabharata* itself it occurs in the following half-verse, *Karnataka mahisaka vikalpa musakastatha* – (*Bhismaparvan*, IX, 59)

But in the authentic Poona critical edition of the *Mahabharata* this line is shown differently as a variant reading only in a footnote. Even if we ignore this citation as dubious, we have attested reference to it in ancient sources like Sudraka's (c. 400 A.D.) *Mrcchakatika-prakarana*, *Visnu Varadharmottara-purana* (c. 400-500 A.D.), Varahamihira's (c. 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D.) *Brhatsamhita*, *Bhagavata-Purana* (c. 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D.) and *Markandeya-Purana* (c. 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D.). This word also occurs in the works of writers like Matanga, Jayakirti, Ksemendra, Kalhana, Bilhana, Somadeva and Jalhana. The word is found also in ancient works of other languages like Prakrit, Marathi and Tamil. Among these, references in Uddyotana Suri's Prakrit work, viz. *Kuvalayamala-Katha* (779 A.D.) and Tamil work, *Silappadikaram* (c. 600 A.D.) are quite old. Coming to Kannada itself, we notice the word frequently used in *Vaddaradhane*, Pampa's poems, Nagavarma's *Karnataka-Kadambari*, etc.

Though we need not accord much importance to later references to the word "Karnataka", references to it in ancient Sanskrit and Kannada inscriptions deserve to be noticed here. The earliest among these are, perhaps, the passage: *Vaijayantitilaka-samasta-karnata-bhuvargabhartaram* (EC, VI.162) occurring in an inscription of the Kadamba king Santivarman, about 450 A.D. In a copper-plate issued by Bhuvikrama, the Ganga king of Talakadu, we have a reference, viz., *asya simah Karnataka pravaksyami* (MAR, 1925; 633 A.D.) and in the Samangad Copper-plate issued by the Rastrakuta king Dantidurga in 753 A.D. we read : *Karnatakam balamacintyamajeyamanyaih* (IA, XI, P.111)

These are only some of the earliest references occurring in hundreds of inscriptions. In the Velvikudi Copper-plate grant (c.770 A.D.) of Sadaiyan Parantaka, the Pandyan king, the word occurs in the form *Karunadagan*. In other Tamil inscriptions, we have also such forms as 'Kannata', *Kannataka* and *Kannadagarum*.

## The Meaning and Etymology of the Word "Karn(n)ataka"

This word was first used as a name signifying the region, then the people of that region and finally, language of these people. Moreover, we come to know that it began to carry the meaning of a family from Hoysala epigraphs, as also the meaning of a clan or *gotra* from *Paniniya-Ganapatha*. It is current in works on Musicology as the name of a melodious note (*raga*).

What exactly is the etymology of this word variantly occurring in forms, correct as well as incorrect; and also of its cognate word *Kannada*? This now deserves investigation.



The traditional and Sanskrit grammar-based derivations of the word suggested in works like *Sabda-ratnavali*, *Skanda-purana* and authors such as Kesava-varnina and Venkatadhvarina have been rejected as fanciful by modern scholars. And it is right. They postulate generally that the second member in the compound word *Karnata*, *Karnnata* or *Kannada* is a Sanskritized form of the indigenous word *nadu* (meaning "land"), in the course of their studies. The first member of the compound has been held to be *kar*, an adjective in the sense of *Karidu* (black), taking the form *kar + nata* (< *nadu*) or "a region with black soil" by Gundert, Caldwell, R.Raghunatha Rao, L.D.Barnett, H.C.Rai Chaudhuri, B.M. Srikantaiah etc. Others take *Karu* to mean 'big' or 'extensive' and explain the form *karu + nadu* (*Karunadu* > *Karnata*) as a wide or extensive land; those who hold this view are Govinda Pai, R.H.Deshpande, Master, B.A. Saletore, etc. H.Narayana Rao holds that *karu* is an adjective meaning 'high' and explains the etymological sense of the word as "a mountainous table-land higher than the sea-level". Recent scholars show their leanings to one or the other of these etymologies. In the Kumbhakonam version of the Mahabharata, the land is addressed as 'Karnata', whereas in the Pune edition, the word used is 'Unnatyaka' for this land to indicate an elevated land, so 'karu' meaning high, on higher grounds or above the ghats was the name given by the Tamil.

Many other views too have been advanced. But most of them are in the nature of speculations, lacking in substantiating evidence. The historian Venkataramanayya has argued that a small district in the Andhra province under the rule of Satavahana kings was called *kanna-visaya*; and it might have been the original source for the later Karnataka with wider dimensions. The subject is in need of further research.

It is true that some districts of Karnataka are regions of black soil; it is also true that they are higher than the sea level and neighbouring valleys. But which of these exactly served as the main reason for the birth of *Karnata*? Since the form *karu-nadu* or anything resembling it is not come across in ancient literary works other than Tamil, it is quite likely that the Sanskrit original word *Karnnata* itself might have assumed forms like *karu-nadu* in the pronunciation of the Tamilians. Moreover, it is significant to note that *karu* is not at all current in Tamil in the sense of 'high' or 'wide'. It is possible that a specific region in the realm of the Chalukyas of Badami was in early times called *Karnata(ka)*; and as it is rich in black soil, might have come to assume that etymological significance too in course of time (*kar + nata* < *nadu* = *karnnata* / *karnnata*; *kar + nadu* > *karnadu* < *Kannadu* > *Kannada*); the same word might have later on come into general usage to signify the whole land too. On the analogy of the word *Punnadu* (*punal + nadu* = *punnadu* > *pumrastra*), it is not unreasonable to imagine that the indigenous word *Kannada* came to be Sanskritized into *Karn(n)ata* (*kar + nadu* = *karnadu* > *Kannada* > *karnata* / *karnata*). *Ka* is only a terminal affix in the Sanskritized form. Some think that *akam* (*gam*) is the second member in the compound word and take it to mean a 'region' of black soil. However, the former seems to be a more cogent hypothesis.

### The Extent and Boundaries of Karn(n)ataka

From contemporary records available to us from the 5<sup>th</sup> century to the 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D, it is believed that the present-day districts of North Kanara, Dharwad, Bijapur, Raichur and Gulbarga constituted the ancient province of Karnataka. The core places of Karnataka mentioned in the *Kavirajamarga* (c. 850 A.D.) viz., Kisuvolalu, Kopana-nagara, Puligere and Omkumda, also mostly come within this territory. Then the boundaries extended from the Kaveri up to the Godavari. Taking a cue from the *Saktisangama-tantra*, some think that the land Karnataka



stretched from a small island, a few miles south of the confluence of the rivers Tunga and Bhadra, up to Srirangapattana.

Besides, the word *Karnataka*, several regional names like Kuntala, Vanavasa, Mahisamandala, etc., have been found in inscriptions and literary works. We should note that these too are regions which come within the scope of our present Karnataka. The term *Kuntala* is used in *Puranas* such as *Matsya* and *Markandeya* and other works. In inscriptions, the terms *Karnataka* and *Kuntala* are sometimes used as separate regional names and at other times as synonyms. It has been thought that the word *Kuntala* in its broad signification, denotes mostly the Kannada-speaking areas in Bombay, Madras and Mysore region (excluding the coastal strips). One might reasonably think on the basis of inscriptions that the Kuntala region included Kurugodu in the Bellary district, washed by the river Krishnas, Gangavadi of Mysore, Nargund of Dharwad district, Torgal of Kolhapur, Terdal of Sangli and Kubattur (*Kuntala-nagara*) to the north-west of Mysore. It is known that Vanavasi, Banavasi, Banavase, Vijayantipura etc. are all variants of only *Vanavasi* which is the region in the North Kanara district known even today as Banavasi. Govinda Pai thinks that the Greek geographer Ptolemy (c.140 A.D.) has alluded to some places in Karnataka between this Banavasi and river Bhima; and that they are corrupt forms of places in North Karnataka known today under the names Nagaruru (Naguru), Tavasi, Indi, Gadhinglaj, Huvina Hipparagi (?), Savadi, Chimmalagi, Kalkeri, Madgal and Hattirki-hal. According to equivalents noted by other scholars, it appears that they represent Nagara, Kollagiri or Kolhapur, Tagara or Torke. In the list of place-names given by him, Punnata, Mudugal and Kalgeri have been noted as pure Kannada names, while *Banavasi* is regarded as a variant Prakritized form (*tadbhava*). However, it is known from Santivarman's Inscriptions (c.450 A.D.) that Banavasi constituted the heart of Karnataka.

Indeed, it is difficult to decide, whether *Mahisamandala* and forms like *Mahisaka*, etc. of the *Puranas* are identical or otherwise. But the general opinion of scholars is that *Mahisamandala* of the Buddhist work *Mahavamsa*, *Mahisa-rashtra* of epigraphs and literary works and *Erumai-nadu*/*Erumaiyur* of the Tamil and "Agananuru" and so forth refer only to Mysore.

In the period of the Badami Chalukyas the Kannada land was divided, according to P.B.Desai, into several *visayas* or districts, viz., *Karnata*, *Kuntala*, *Lata*, *Karahata*, *Vanavasa*, *Tuluva*, *Alvakheda*, *Gomantaka*, *Konkana*, *Punnata* and *Vengi-mandala* and all of these regions come under the single head "*Karnata*", as a result of the heroic exploits of Pulakesin II. Since then, all the subsequent emperors like Gangas, Kalyana Chalukyas, Kalachuris, Hoysalas, as well as Vijayanagara and Mysore rulers have continuously described themselves as monarchs of the Karnata kingdom; this accounts for the extension in the connotation of the name Karnataka; and common usage of that name to mean the habitat of the Kannada-speaking people. Recently, an inscription has been unearthed which describes the Nandi Hills as situated to the east of the Karnataka kingdom. This supports the conclusion that in about 1680 A.D., the time of the inscription, Mysore was being spoken of as Karnataka. More recently, several parts of the entire Karnataka were included under different linguistic provinces because of political reasons. The name 'Karnataka' had become almost defunct appearing more like a survival from past history. But as a result of sustained efforts of leaders in sowing and nurturing the seed of patriotic feeling regarding a unified Karnataka and also because of other circumstances, Karnataka came into being as a unified state, except for a few parts left out; since November 1, 1973 the name of the Kannada land also came to be perpetuated as "Karnataka".



**Karn(n)ataka in Tradition**

In the *Ramayana* name-references, viz., Dandakaranya, Godavari, Krsnaveni (Mahanadi), Kaveri and Tamraparni throw light on our regions, Kiskindha has been identified as Anegondi near Hampi, Konkan comprising our South Kanara and North Kanara Districts is famous as *Parasurama-ksetra* or the land sanctified by Parasurama. Local traditions describe that Hangal in Dharwad district is the capital city of King Virata where Pandavas passed an year incognito: that Kuntalapura, the capital of the legendary king Chandrhasa is none other than the village Kubatur in Sorab taluk of the Shimoga district; and that Manipura where Arjuna fought a single combat with his son Babhruvahana is a town in the Heggadadevanakote Taluk of the Mysore district. Similarly, several towns in the Kannada land such as Gokarna, Hampi, Chandragutti, Tamasandra, Avani, Sringeri, Banavasi, Jatinga-Ramesvara, Ramanathapura, Nandi, Mulukunte, etc., have local traditions associated with the *Ramayana* episodes; Chitradurga, Talagunda, Rahmanbet, Kaivara, Shrishaila, Manipura, Balligavi, Hangal, Harihara, Banavasi, Gokarna etc., have traditions associated with the *Mahabharata* episodes. These are known from references to them in source books such as *Puranas*, *Sthala-mahatmyas*, and literary works, in folk legends and in folklore. But it is indeed difficult to push back the prominence and antiquity of these places to such hoary times historically on the sole evidence of these accounts. All that we can conclude from them is the fact that our people had intimate regard for the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata*.

**The Original Inhabitants of Karn(n)ataka**

Studies in Pre-history show that the Karnataka region was inhabited by people from times dating back to four lakhs of years. The present population of Karnataka owes its origin to people of different races that migrated here during different periods. Four important races inhabiting this land in remote antiquity have been recognised on the basis of their different physical characteristics. Although these people have freely mingled with intermixed blood-relationships in the course of their long struggle for life, the basic demarcating race-characteristics still survive in them in varying degrees.

People of the Negritto race are said to be the first-comers. Though it is almost impossible to see persons today possessing these racial characteristics fully, we can find persons having many of the characteristics. It has been supposed that these might be the people belonging to the Paleolithic stage of civilization or to the still earlier civilization using cruder stone implements. Scholars opine that the racial characteristics of the later Austroloids can be generally recognised in the present-day aboriginal tribes such as Irula, Soliga and Koraga. These people are supposed to have migrated to India, including parts of Karnataka, from regions of Australia and South-East Asia.

But those who constitute the largest bulk of population in Karnataka are people who possess physical characteristics of the Mediterranean race. Skeletons having the characteristics of the Mediterraneans have been found in graves here dating back to the Neolithic age of human civilization. It is thought that people of this race migrated to South India from their original habitat through North-Western India; and that they were living in Karnataka in the Neolithic age of civilization. Attempts have been made to prove that the Ur-Dravida language spread in this region because of them. Recently, attempts have been successfully made to prove contacts and similarities in characteristics – religious, social and linguistic between the Dravidian race and the races belonging to the Eastern Mediterranean region, East-Hellenic Greece, Crete, Greek Islands

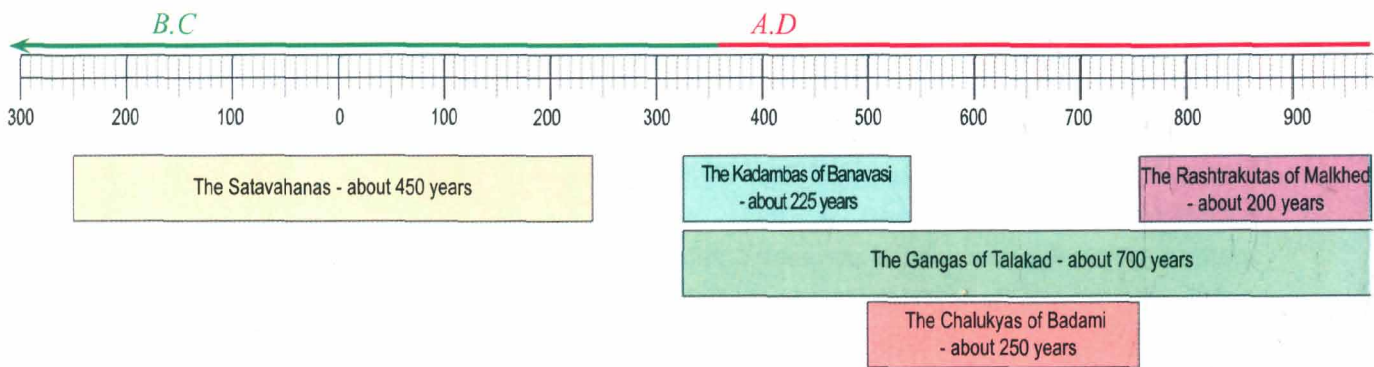
in the Aegean Sea and some parts of Asia Minor. Scholars in Anthropology and linguistics such as Dr. Hall, Dr. N.Lahovari, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, F.J. Richards, James Harnell, Dr. G.Olivier, etc. are responsible for such attempts.

It is not easy to say whether the people of the Caucasian race who came to North-Western India by about 2000 B.C. spread over Karnataka also. But it has been thought that the Sakas who migrated to India at the beginning of the historical age might have given rise to another brachycephalic race. But recent explorations show that people with such features existed in the huge stone-grave cultural epoch too. Hence this racial question is riddled with difficulty.

Thus Karnataka had become the home of various races as early as the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Later, by the beginning of the historical period, Greeko-Romans came into contact with Karnataka; while in still later times Arabs, Persians, Sinhalese, Mohammedans, African Blacks, Portuguse etc., in the order enumerated, established contacts and intimate relations with Karnataka.

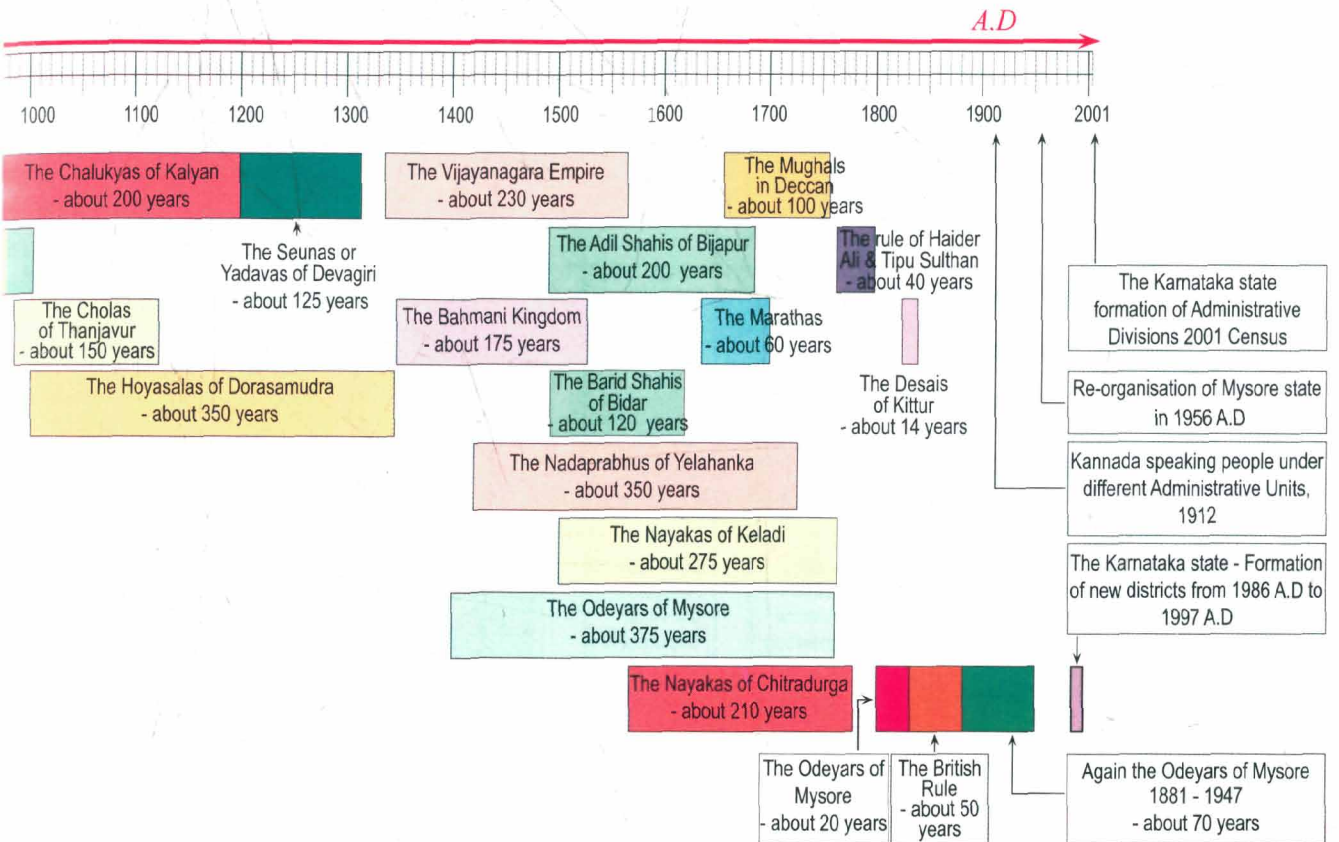
*Translation* : Dr. K.KRISHNAMURTHY

# The dynasties and rulers in








# Karnataka on the time scale






## Dynasties and rulers in Karnataka and

Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	The early period 250 B.C – 240 A.D	The Satavahanas	950,067 (Only parts of Northern Karnataka in the empire)	Simuka Gautamiputra	-	Paithan in Maharashtra	Dharanikota in present Andhra Pradesh.
2	325A.D - 540 A.D	The Kadambas of Banavasi	81,152 (Northern Karnataka)	Mayura Sharma Kakusta Varma	 Lion	Banavasi in Uttara Kannada district	Talagunda in Shimoga district of Karnataka.
3	325A.D - 1004 A.D	The Gangas of Talakad	182,266 (Southern Karnataka Gangawadi)	Madhava Avinita Durvinita Sripurusha	 Elephant	Talakad in Mysore district	Claiming to be from Ayodhya in North India and their first capital was Kolar in Karnataka.
4	500A.D - 757 A.D	The Chalukyas of Badami	801,957 (Southern Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Major parts of Andhra Pradesh and Northern Tamil nadu)	Mangalesha Pulikesi II Vikramaditya I Vijayaditya	 Varaha	Badami in Bagalkot district	Claiming to be from Ayodhya in Uttara Pradesh
5	757A.D -973 A.D	The Rashtrakutas of Malkhed	899,248 (Almost as above except Vengi)	Krishna I Dhruva Govinda III Amoghavarsha I	Garuda	Malkhed in Gulbarga district	First capital was Elichapur modern Achalapura and their original home Lattalur modern Latur in Maharashtra



## a few of their socio - cultural characteristics

Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Buddhist and Vedic religion. Many Satavahana Queens followed Buddhism and Princes followed Vedic religion.	Pranaveshwara, Indra, Surya, Chandra, Vishnu, Shiva, Gauri, Ganesha, Vasudeva, Shakti and Gajalakshmi	Prakrit and Brahmi	Kannada	Gatasaptasati written by Hala, Vaddakatha by Gunadhya (Prakrit).	Stupas at Amaravati, Nagarjunakonda and Nasik, Sannati, Chaityas at Karle, Ajanta and Kanheri
Brahmins and Vedic religion, belonged to Manavya Gotra and the sons of Harithi (Harithiputras).	Madhukeshwara-family diety. Shiva, Lakshmi and Pranaveshwara.	Sanskrit, Prakrit and Kannada	Kannada	The Sanskrit Talagunda inscriptions written by Kubja, Halmidi is first Kannada Inscription.	Pranaveswara temple at Talagunda, Kaleshwara and Jainabasadi at Halasi
Vedic religion and devotees of Vaishnava and Jainism, belonged to Jahnaveyakula and Kanvayana Gotra and were also known as Kongani Arasas.	Shiva, Vishnu, Durga, and Thirthankaras.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Chamundaraya Purana by Chamundaraya, Chandombudhi by Nagavarma, Sabdavataara by Pujiyapada.	Gomateshwara at Shravanabelgola, the Arkeshwara, Pataleshawara and the Someshwara at Manne, Basti at Kambadahalli.
Vedic religion, they were initially Vaishnavas and accepted Shaivism, called themselves as to Harithiputras and of Manavyasa Gotra.	Vishnu, Shiva, Kartikeya (Mahasena), Varaha, Ganapathi, Shakti, Surya, Sapta Matrikas (Seven Mothers) and Lajja Gauri and Lakulisha.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Kaumudimahotsava by Vijaya Bhattarika, Aihole Inscription by Ravikirthi	Cave Temples at Badami, the Durga temple at Aihole, the Lokeshwara, Virupaksha and the Mallikarjuna temples at Pattadakal, the Mahalakshmi temple at Kolhapur.
Vaishnavas and Vedic religion, Amoghavarsha professed Jainism. They belonged to Ratta -Vamsha and Yadava clan.	Shiva, Vishnu, Veeranarayana and Mahalakshmi	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Adipurana and Vikramarjuna Vijaya by Pampa, Kavirajamarga by Amoghavarsha Nrupatunga, Shantipurana by Ponna, Vaddaradhane by Shivakotacharya.	The Kailasa temple at Yellora, Trimurthy statue at Elephanta, Basti at Pattadakal.

Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	973 A.D - 1189A.D	The Chalukyas of Kalyan	842,472 (Almost as above)	Taila Someshwara I Someswara III Vikramaditya VI	 Varaha	Kalyan modern Basava - kalyana in Bidar district	Badami in Bagalkot district in Karnataka.
6A	1167 A.D - 1184 A.D	The Kalachuri Interegnum	(Almost as above)	Bijjala	 Vrishabha	Kalyan modern Basava - kalyana in Bidar district	
7	985 A.D -1122A.D	The Cholas of Thanjavur	337,831 (Only in Southern Karnataka (Gangavadi))	Rajaraja I Rajadhiraja Kulothunga I		Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu	First capital was Uraiyur in Tamil Nadu
8	1198 A.D - 1312A.D	The Seunas or Yadavas of Devagiri	476,212 (Only in Northern Karnataka, parts of Andhra Pradesh, Southern Madhya Pradesh, Gujarath and Maharashtra)	Billama V Singhana II	 Garuda	Devagiri modern Daulathabad in Maharashtra	Originally from Karnataka




Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Orthodox Hindu religion and devotees of Shaivism and Vaishnavism. During this period Virashaivism developed.	Shiva, Vishnu, Ganapati, Surya, Kumara, Shakti and indigeneous cults - Mari, Masani and Ekkalathi.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Gadayudda and Ajitha purana by Ranna, Mithakshara by Vigneshawara, Sangeetha Chudamani by Jagadekamalla, Panchatantra by Durgasimha, Pampa Ramayana by Nagachandra, Vachana Sahitya by Basavanna and others	The Kashi Vishweshwara temple and the Brahma Jeenalaya at Lakkundi, the Someshwara, Trikuteshwara and the Saraswati temple at Gadag, the Mallikarjuna temple at Kuravatti and the Mahadeva temple at Itagi,
-	Shiva, Vishnu, Ganapati, Surya, Kumara, Shakti and indigeneous cults - Mari, Masani and Ekkalathi.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada, Basaveshvara was Bijjala's Treanrer.	Vikramankacharite by Billana and Manasollasa by Someshwara III	
Shaivism and claimed to belong to the Suryavamsas	Shiva, Rajarajeswara and Choleswara.	Sanskrit and Tamil	Tamil	Kalingappattarani by Jayagondar, Kamba Ramayana by Kamban and Periyapurana by Sekkilar	Brihadeshwara temple at Thanjavur and the Shiva temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Aprameya temple at Malur, Channapatna.
Vaishnavism and Mahanubava sect. They were indigenous Kannadigas from Bijapur area and Virashaivism flourished in the kingdom	Lakshminarayana, Veerabhadra and Shiva.	Sanskrit, Kannada, Devanagari and Marathi	Kannada	Sangeetha Ratnakara by Saringadeva, Sookti Muktavali by Bhanudeva, Chatur-Varga Chintamani, Kalanirnaya, Arthakanda and Ayurveda Rasayana by Hemadri	The Vijaya-Bhuvaneshwara temple at Sangamaner.





Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1000A.D - 1346A.D	The Hoysalas of Dorasamudra	287,214 Only in Major parts of Southern Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Northern Tamil Nadu)	Vishnuvardhana Ballala II Ballala III	 Tiger (Sala Killing)	Dorasamudra modern Halebidu in Hassan district	They claim to have come from Dwaraka in Gujarat. An indigenous family originally belonging to Sosevuru or Shashakapura modern Angadi in Chikmagalur district in Karnataka
10	1336 A.D - 1565A.D	The Vijayanagara Empire	494,396 (Major parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh)	Bukka I Devaraya II Krishnadevaraya	 Varaha	Vijayanagara modern Hampi in Bellary district	Origin theories described Orangal in Andhra Pradesh and Dorasamudra in Karnataka.
11	1347 A.D - 1527 A.D	The Bahmani Kingdom	552,180 Major parts of Maharashtra, Northern Karnataka	Muhammad-Shah I Feroze Shah, Muhammad-Shah II	-	Gulbarga and later Bidar in Karnataka	Delhi in north India.
12	1489 A.D - 1686 A.D	The Adil Shahis of Bijapur	294,213 Major parts of Maharashtra, and Karnataka	Yusuf Adilkhan Ibrahim Adil-Shah II	-	Bijapur in Karnataka	Middle - East



Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Vedic religion and accepted Shrivaisnava cult and Jainism. They Claim Yadava descent.	Narasimha, Surya, Ganapati, Kartikeya, Saraswati, Vishnu, Sree Veerupaksha and Sree Channakeshava, Teerthankaras.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Yeshodhara Charite by Janna, Girija Kalyana by Harihara, Harishchandra Kavya by Raghavanka, Mahabharatha Tatparya Nirnaya by Madhwacharya, Brahmasutra and Vedantasara by Ramanujacharya	The Hoysaleswara temple at Halebidu, Channakeshava temple at Belur, Keshava temple at Somanathapura. The Shilabalikas in their temples are very famous works of art in Belur and Halebidu. The Kirthinarayana temple at Talakad and jain basti built by Queen Santhala at Shravanabelagola.
Shrivaisnavism, and Shaivism	Sree Veerupaksha, Lord Vishnu, Rama and Venkataramana.	Sanskrit, Nagari, Kannada and Telugu.	Kannada, Telugu	Gadugina Bharatha by Kumaravyasa, Barateshavaibhava by Ratnakaravarni, Madhura Vijayam by Gangambike, Mohana Tarangani and Haribhaktisara by Kanakadasa, Dasa Sahitya by Purandaradasa and others Manucharitam by Allasani Peddanna, Amuktamalyada by Krishnadevaraya.	Veerupaksha temple at Hampi, Vidyashankara temple at Shringeri, Savira Kambada Basadi at Mudabidre and Savirakamba Mantapa at Rameshwaram
Islam, Perdeshis were Shias and Deccanis were Sunnis	Allah	Persian	Urdu	Dekkani literature by Kwaza Bande Navaz, Persian works written by Mahmud Gawan	Fort, Jumma Maszid at Gulbarga, and Sola Khamba Masjid at Bidar, Gawan's Madrasa at Bidar.
Islam, belonged to Shias	Allah	Kannada and Persian	Urdu	Kitab – E - Navaras by Ibrahim II, Tazkirat - Ul - Muluk by Shirazi Ali - Nama by Ali II	Golgumbaj, Ibrahim Roza, Bara Khamb, Mehtar Mahal and Jama Masjid at Bijapur






Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13	1487 A.D - 1619 A.D	The Barid Shahis of Bidar	25,900	Amir Kasim-Barid Amir Ali Barid Ali Barid Shah	-	Bidar	North India
14	1420 A.D - 1728 A.D	The Nadaprabhus of Yelahanka	11,154 Began as subordinates of Vijayanagara	Kempe Gowda I Kempe Gowda II	-	Yelahanka	Yelamanjiuttur in Kolar district
15	1500 A.D - 1763 A.D	The Nayakas of Keladi	60,300	Shivappa-Nayaka Rani - Channammaji	 Bherunda	Keladi, Ikkeri and Bidanur in Shimoga district of Karnataka.	Hallibayalu, Shimoga district of Karnataka.
16	1399 A.D - 1761 A.D	The Odeyars of Mysore	100,254	Raja Odeyar Ranadheera-Kanteerava Chikkadevaraja-Odeyar	 Bherunda	Mysore and Shrirangapattana in Karnataka	Claiming to be from Dwaraka in Gujarat
17	1637 A.D - 1687 A.D Shivaji's date 1643 A.D - 1680 A.D	The Marathas	107,478	Chatrapati-Shivaji, Shahaji Bhosle and Ekoji	-	(Shivaji) Raigad, Shahji at Bangalore	Maharashtra
17 B	1740 A.D - 1818 A.D	The Peshwas	-	Bajirao I Madhavrao	-	At Pune	Maharashtra

Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Islam, belonged to Sunni	Allah	Kannada and Persian	Urdu		Monuments and tombs of the Barid Shah, outside of the town was Artistic and Impressive
Hindu, belonged to the Vokkaliga caste.	Bhairava and Shiva (Gangadhara)	Kannada	Kannada	-	The Basava temple, Someshwara temple, Gavigangadhara temple at Bangalore, the Rameshwara temple at Magadi, the Veerabhadra temple at Savanadurga
Veerashivism.	Veerabhadra, Shiva and Mookambika.	Sanskrit and Kannada	Kannada	Shivatattva Ratnakara by Basappa Nayaka in Sanskrit.	The Rameshwara temple at Keladi, the Aghoreshwara temple at Ikkeri.
Shrivaishnava	Cheluvanaraya, Melkote and Ranganatha of Srirangapattana and they were devotees of Vishnu, Chamundi at Mysore.	Kannada and Sanskrit	Kannada	Kanthirava Narasaraaja Vijaya by Govinda Vaidya, Chikkaraja Binnapa and Geetha Gopala by Chikkadevaraja and Hadibadiya Dharma by Sanchiya Honnamma, Jaimini Bharata by Lakshmisha	Old Atara Kacheri at Bangalore, Swethavaraha temple at Mysore, Gopalkrishna temple at Naradahalli and Varadha temple.
Hinduism	Bhavani	Marathi and Kannada	Marathi and Kannada	Sanskrit and Marathi Literature by Jayaram Pindya, Malhari Bhatta and Naropant Hanmante	Gauri mahal and Palace at Bangalore. Forts at Ramadurga, Bhimgad, Vallabhagad, Parasgad in Belgaum district
Peshwas	Shiva, Vishnu	Marathi and Kannada	Marathi and Kannada		

Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	1657 A.D - 1757 A.D	The Mughals in Deccan	Subas of Hyderabad 394,328.00 Subas of Aurangabad 102,692 Subas of Khandesh 76,694 Subas of Berar 121,053 Subas of Bidar 33,075 Subas of Bijapur 198,025	Aurangazeb and Nijamul-Mulk Asaf Jah	-	Bijapur and Bidar in Karnataka	North west of India
19	1568 A.D - 1779 A.D	The Nayakas of Chitradurga	12,645	Bharamappa-Nayaka, Madakari - Nayaka	-	Chitradurga	Madakari near Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh
20	1761 A.D - 1799 A.D	The rule of Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan	267,751 (Only in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala)	Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan	 Tiger	Shrirangapattana in Mysore district	Devanahalli in Bangalore Rural district
21	1799 A.D	Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan, the partition treaty, Karnataka except old Mysore state divided between the British presidency of Bombay, Madras, the Marathas and the Nizam of Hyderabad	Mysore kingdom 77,947 Madras presidency 33,938 Maratha kingdom 36,153 Nizam's dominions 43,758	The Odeyars, The British Governors, The Nizam of Hyderabad, The Marathas.	 Mysore kingdom  British  Emblem of Nizam	Shrirangapattana, Hyderabad, Bombay and Chennai	-





Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Islam	Allah and many sufi saints worshipped Dattatreya	Persian, Deccani, Hindi and Kannada	Urdu, Kannada	-	-
Hinduism, belonged to Valmiki gotra and Kamageti Vamsha	Nirtadi Ranganatha	Kannada	Kannada, Telugu	-	Chitradurga fort at Chitradurga, Hanuman and Ranganatha temple at Hampanur
Islam	Allah	Kannada, Marathi and Persian	Urdu Kannada, Tamil, Malayalam.	-	Palace, Fort and Darya Daulath at Shrirangapattana, Palace and Lalbagh at Bangalore
Hindu, Islam, Christianity	Vishnu, Allah and Jesus	Kannada, Marathi, English and Persian	Kannada, Urdu, Marathi	-	-

Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22	1800 A.D - 1831 A.D	The Odeyars of Mysore	77,942	Krishnaraja-Odeyar III	 Berunda	Mysore	-
23	1800 A.D - 1858 A.D	Anti British Uprisings in Karnataka				-	-
24	Later part of 18th century and early part of 19th Century.	The Desais of Kittur	2,051	Rani - Chennamma.	-	Kittur in Belgaum district	Kittur in Belgaum district
25	1831 A.D - 1881 A.D	The British rule in Mysore state	British rule of Mysore kingdom 77,942	The Commissioners	 Emblem of Britishes	Mysore	England
26	1857 A.D	The Formation of Administrative Divisions in 1857 A.D	Hindu & others territories - 86,220 British territories - 83,889 Muslims territories - 21,682	The Britishers, The Nizam of Hyderabad and other Hindu Kings.	 Emblem of Britishes  Emblem of Nizam  Emblem of Mysore kingdom	Mysore, Hyderabad, Kolhapur	-



Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Vaishnavas, belonged to Yadhuvamshas	Swethavaraha Swamy and they were devoties of Vishnu, Chamundi.	English, Persian and Marathi	Kannada	Naveenateeke and Vatsarajakathe by Mummadi Krishnaraja Odeyar, Rajavali Kathe by Devachandra, Valmiki Ramayana by name of Chamarajejakti Vilasa written by Chamaraja and Mudramanjusha by Kempunarayana	Palace at Mysore
Hindu	-	Kannada	Kannada		
Hindu	Shiva	Kannada	Kannada	-	Fort at Kittur
Christianity, Hindu and Islam	Jesus, Allah and other Hindu gods	Kannada and, English	English	-	Central College, Bangalore High School, Bangalore Museum and new Attara Kacheri building at Bangalore.
-	-	-	-	-	-

Sl. No.	Period	Name of the dynasty	Approximate area under rule (in Sq. Km)	Important rulers	Royal emblem	Capital	Place of origin
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
27	1881 A.D - 1947 A.D	Again the Odeyars of Mysore	77,942	Shri Chamarajendra-Odeyar Krishnarajendra-Odeyar IV Jayachamaraja-Odeyar	 Bherunda	Mysore	
28	1799 A.D - 1947 A.D Kannada speaking people distributed into 20 Administrative units.	Kannada speaking people under different Administrative units, 1912 Mysore, Hyderabad, Kodagu, Sandur, Sangli, Miraj, Kurundwad, Kolhapur, Ramdurg, Jamkhandi, Aundh, Wadgaon, Savanur, Mudhol, Jatt, Akkolkot, Junior Miraj, The Cantonments of Bangalore, Belgaum. Bellary and the British Provinces of Madras and Bombay.	242,295	-	-	-	-
29	1956 A.D	Re-organisation of Mysore state in 1956 A.D - with 19 districts	191,791				
30	Bangalore Rural district created in 1986 A.D & Seven new districts created in 1997 A.D	The Karnataka state -Formation of new districts from 1986 A.D to 1997 A.D	191,791				
31	The Karnataka State Administrative Divisions 2001	The Karnataka state as per 2001 A.D	191,791				

Religions / faiths followed	Names of the gods/ goddesses / dieties worshipped	Language of the scripts / inscriptions used	Major languages spoken	Major literary works and authors	Important Art and Architecture in Karnataka and other places
8	9	10	11	12	13
Vaishnavas, belonged to Yadhu vamshas	Chamundi and other Gods and they were devoties of Vishnu	K a n n a d a , E n g l i s h , Marathi and Konkani	Kannada	Arthashastra by Shama Shastri, Planned Economy for India by Sir M. Vishweswarayya,	K r i s h n a r a j a Sagara Dam at K a n n a m b a d i , Kannada Sahitya Parishat Building, Mysore University at Mysore, Kolar Gold Field at Kolar dist.
All Religions	All Gods.	Kannada, Marathi, English, Urdu	Kannada, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, English, Urdu.	English Gitegalu by B.M.Srikantaiah, Ramayana Darshanam by K.V. Puttappa, Mysore Mallige by K.S. Narsimha Swamy, Chirasmarane by Niranjana, Gadasaktri by T.P. Kailasam and some Important News paper like Deccan Herald, Prajavani, Samyukta Karnataka etc. started.	Central Library, Agricultural University, Mysore Bank, Puttanachetty memorial hall (Town Hall), Engineering College at Bangalore Film, Painting and Sculpture progressed in Karnataka.

For details please refer to pages 32, 34, 96 and 98 and maps 1, 2, 33 and 34



# Karnataka, 2001

The geographical position of Karnataka state in India, with its territorial content as it exists now was formed on 1st November 1956 under States' Reorganisation Act. However, it was known as Mysore state until 1st November, 1973. It is located in the western part of the Deccan Peninsular region of India and lies between 11° 35' to 18° 30' North latitudes and 75° 5' to 78° 35' East Longitudes. The state is bounded by Maharashtra and Goa states in the north by Lakshadweep sea in the west, by Kerala and Tamil Nadu state in the south and by the state of Andhra Pradesh in the east. The state extends to about 750 kilometres from north to south and about 250 kilometres from east to west. It is the eighth largest state in terms of area and ninth largest state in terms of population among the states and union territories of the Indian union.

The Governor is the head of the administration and assisted by cabinet headed by the Chief Minister, selected from the legislature. Kannada is the official language. Many languages and dialects are spoken. Karnataka has made substantial progress after independence and unification. It is a mini India in all its diversity. Karnataka, today with a population of over 53 million is among the progressive states in the country. Its role in the modernisation of the country can hardly over emphasised.

The Arabian coastline, the Deccan plateau rocks and the rich tropical forests along with other places of tourist interest and historical importance, Karnataka has become the most sought after tourist destination. Its enriching folk dances, music, art forms and literature, age old rituals have enriched the cultural diversity of the state. Its capital Bangalore, known as an air-conditioned city, garden city, Silicon Valley of India, is considered to be the fastest developing city in the world. It is also home of advanced science and technology and business and commerce.

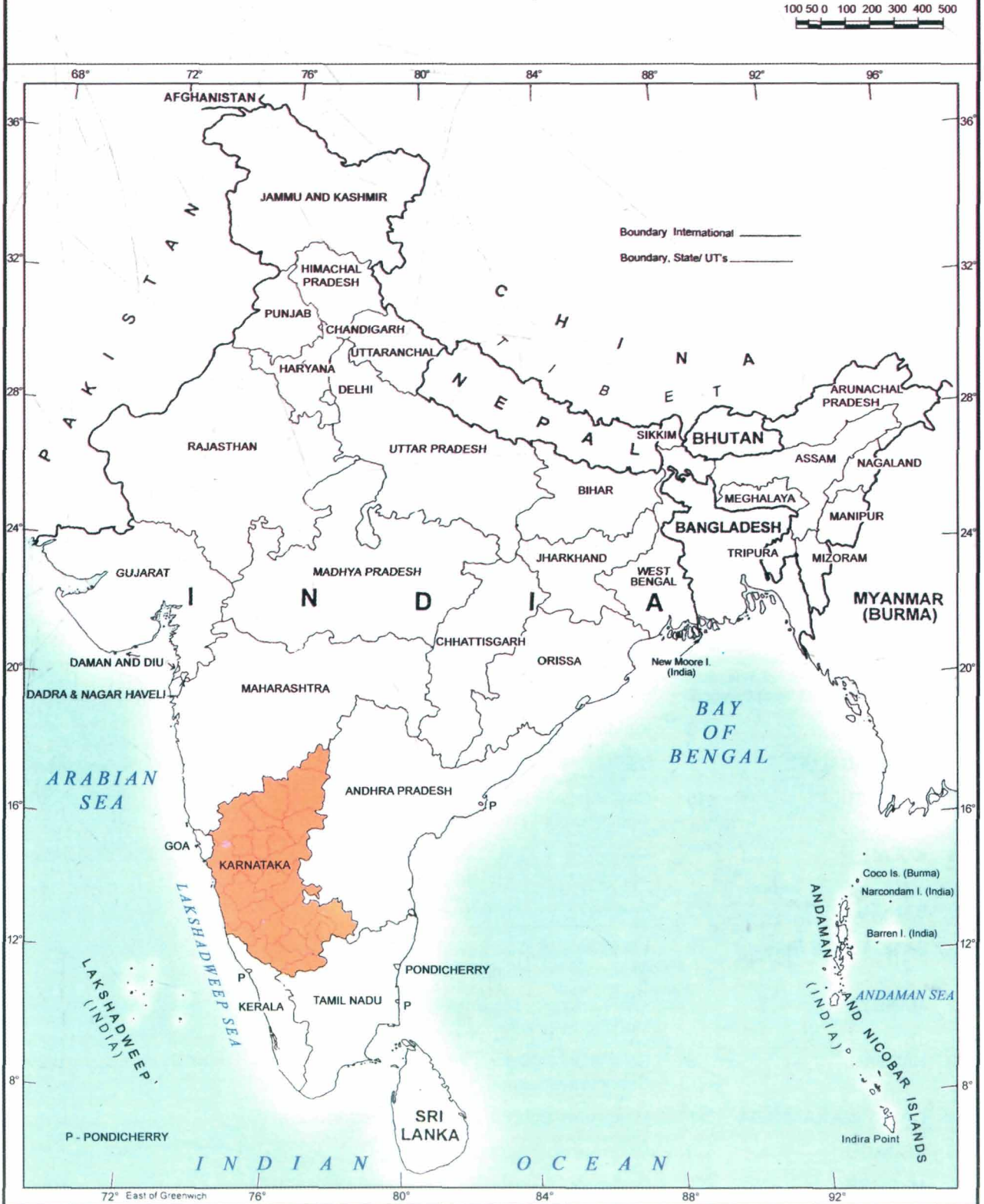
Though there has been marked improvements in several spheres, much remains to be done in providing basic amenities like food, clothing, shelter and improving the general living standard. The 2001 Census has highlighted some of the important aspects and views about Karnataka, its people and their social, demographic and economic status.

The population of Karnataka as on 1st March, 2001 is 52.8 million spreading over a land area of 1,91,791 sq. km. or 73,991 sq. miles. The State's area accounts for 5.83 per cent of the total land area of the country and its population accounts for 5.36 per cent of the country's population. The average density of population which was 235 in 1991 has gone up to 276 in 2001 as compared to all India figure of 324. The total number of urban units in Karnataka is 270 of which 226 are statutory towns and 44 census towns. 29,406 villages and nearly 30,000 hamlets in them form rural Karnataka.

The sex ratio represents the number of females per thousand males has gone up from 960 in 1991 to 965 in 2001 as against 933 of the country. In the field of literacy excluding children under age 6, the percentage of literacy has improved from 56.04 per cent in 1991 is to 66.6 in 2001. Though there is a substantial improvement in literacy rate, the fact remains that 33.4 per cent of our population is still illiterate and female illiteracy as high as 43.1 per cent. Karnataka is a land of many religions, faiths and persuasions. The religious composition of people as per 2001 census is yet to be compiled.

About 44.5 per cent of our population are workers and the rest 55.5 per cent are non-workers. The proportion of cultivators has declined from 35.4 per cent in 1991 to 29.2 per cent in 2001 and that of agricultural laborers from 29.9 per cent to 26.5 per cent in 2001 at the State level. The proportions of workers in "household industry" and "other workers" have increased from 1.9 per cent in 1991 to 4.1 per cent in 2001 and from 32.8 per cent to 40.2 per cent respectively.

## Karnataka, 2001





# The Karnataka state

## Administrative Divisions 2001

The major Administrative Divisions of Karnataka as at the 2001 census are the following 27 districts having 175 taluks.

	Districts	No. of Taluks	Name of the Taluks
1	BELGAUM	10	Athni, Belgaum, Chikodi, Gokak, Hukeri, Khanapur, Parasagad (Saundatti) Ramadurg, Raibag and Sampgaon (Bailhongal)
2	BAGALKOT	6	Jamkhandi, Bilgi, Mudhol, Badami, Bagalkot, Hungund
3	BIJAPUR	5	Bijapur, Indi, Sindgi, Basavana Bagevadi, Muddebihal
4	GULBARGA	10	Aland, Afzalpur, Gulbarga, Chincholi, Sedam, Chitapur, Jevargi, Shorapur, Shahpur, Yadgir
5	BIDAR	5	Basavakalyan, Bhalki, Aurad, Bidar, Honnabad
6	RAICHUR	5	Lingsugur, Devadurga, Raichur, Manvi, Sindhnur
7	KOPPAL	4	Yelbarga, Kushtagi, Gangawati, Koppal
8	GADAG	5	Nargund, Ron, Gadag, Shirhatti, Mundargi
9	DHARWAD	5	Dharwad, Navalgund, Hubli, Kalghatgi, Kundgol
10	UTTARA KANNADA	11	Karwar, Supa, Haliyal, Yellapur, Mundgod, Sirsi, Ankola, Kumta, Siddapur, Honavar, Bhatkal
11	HAVERI	7	Shiggaon, Savanur, Hangal, Haveri, Byadgi, Hirekerur, Ranibennur
12	BELLARY	7	Hadagalli, Hagaribommanahalli, Hospet, Siruguppa, Bellary, Sandur, Kudligi
13	CHITRADURGA	6	Molakalmuru, Challakere, Chitradurga, Holalkere, Hosdurga, Hiriya
14	DAVANAGERE	6	Harihar, Harapanahalli, Jagalur, Davanagere, Honnali, Channagiri
15	SHIMOGA	7	Sagar, Sorab, Shikarpur, Hosanagara, Tirthahalli, Shimoga, Bhadravati
16	UDUPI	3	Kundapura, Udupi, Karkal
17	CHIKMAGALUR	7	Sringeri, Koppa, Narasimharajapura, Tarikere, Kadur, Chikmagalur, Mudigere
18	TUMKUR	10	Chiknayakanhalli, Sira, Pavagada, Madhugiri, Koratagere, Tumkur, Gubbi, Tiptur, Turuvekere, Kunigal
19	KOLAR	11	Gauribidanur, Chik Ballapur, Gudibanda, Bagepalli, Sidlaghatta, Chintamani, Srinivasapur, Kolar, Malur, Bangarapet, Mulbagal
20	BANGALORE	3	Bangalore North, Bangalore South, Anekal
21	BANGALORE RURAL	8	Nelamangala, Dod Ballapur, Devanahalli, Hosakote, Magadi, Ramanagaram, Channarayana, Kanakapura
22	MANDYA	7	Krishnarajpet, Nagamangala, Pandavapura, Shrirangapattana, Mandya, Maddur, Malavalli
23	HASSAN	8	Sakleshpur, Belur, Arsikere, Hassan, Alur, Arkalgud, Hole Narsipur, Channarayana
24	DAKSHINA KANNADA	5	Mangalore, Bantval, Beltangadi, Puttur, Sulya
25	KODAGU	3	Madikeri, Somvarpet, Virajpet
26	MYSORE	7	Piriyapatna, Hunsur, Krishnarajanagara, Mysore, Heggadadevankote, Nanjangud, Tirumakudal-Narsipur
27	CHAMARAJANAGAR	4	Gundlupet, Chamarajanagar, Yelandur, Kollegal





Emblem of Karnataka

# The Karnataka state Administrative Divisions 2001



KILOMETRES





# Physiography of Karnataka

Physiographically Karnataka state forms part of two well defined macro regions of Indian Peninsula; the Deccan Plateau and the Coastal Plains and Islands. On the consideration of regional physiographic characteristics the state can be divided into following four regions:

## **Northern Karnataka Plateau:**

This region comprises of districts of Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Bagalkot and Gulbarga and is largely composed of Deccan trap. It represents a monotonous and treeless extensive plateau landscape with a general elevation of 300 to 600 metres from the mean sea level. However, the river plains of Krishna, the Bhima, the Ghataprabha and the Malaprabha rivers with the intervening watersheds, the step like landscapes, lateritic scarpments, residual hills and ridges break the monotony of this extensive plateau. Its general slope is towards east. The region is largely covered with rich black cotton soils, which are known to be retentive of moisture.

## **Central Karnataka Plateau:**

The Central Karnataka Plateau covers the districts of Bellary, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Dharwad, Haveri, Gadag, Raichur, Koppal and Shimoga. It represents the transitional surface between the Northern Karnataka plateau of Deccan Trap and the Southern Karnataka Plateau with relatively higher surface. By and large, this area represents the region of Tungabhadra basin. The general elevation varies between 450 and 700 metres. However, this transitional ground is broken by several sets of parallel ridges mainly made up of Dharwar system of rocks. The height of such residual hills is about 900 metres. The general slope of the region is towards the east. Tungabhadra is the main river. Vedavathi (Hagari), Varada, Kumudvati, Chikka Hagari and Benni Halla are other important streams of this region.

## **Southern Karnataka Plateau:**

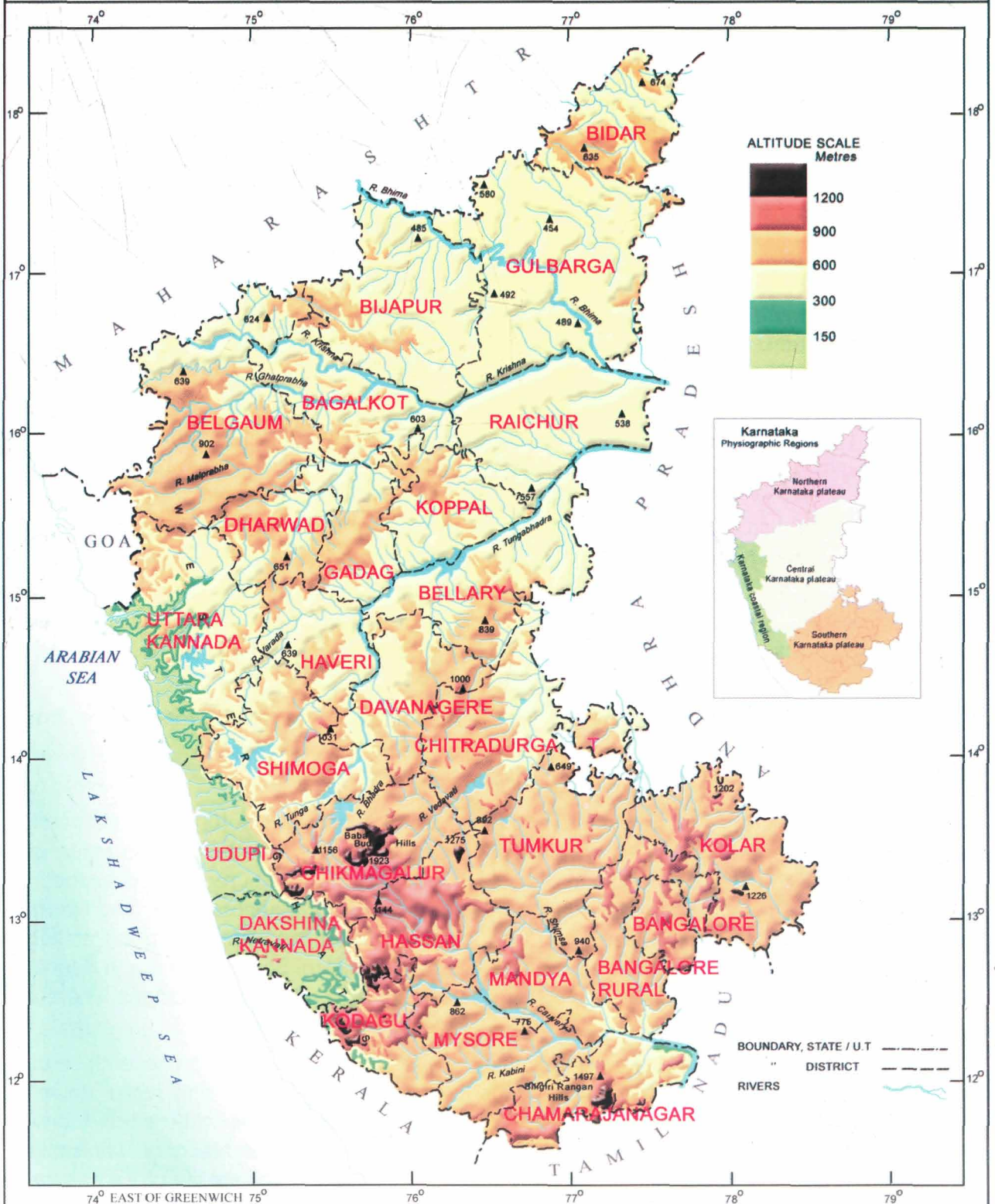
The Southern Karnataka Plateau covers the districts of Bangalore, Hassan, Kodagu, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore, Chamarajanagar and Tumkur and largely represents the core of old Mysore State. Physiographically it largely covers the area of Cauvery river basin lying in Karnataka. It is bounded by 600 metre contour and is characterised by a higher degree of slope. In the west and south it is enclosed by the ranges of Western Ghat and the northern part is an interrupted but clearly identifiable high plateau which, by and large, forms the watershed between Cauvery and Tungabhadra river systems. In the east of the valleys of Cauvery and its tributaries open out to form undulating plains. The general elevation of the region ranges from 600 to 900 metres. However, residual heights of 1500 - 1750 metres are found in Biligirirangan range of Kollegal and Brahmagiri Ghats of Kodagu. Cauvery is the main river of the region. It originates at Tala Cauvery in Brahmagiri range of Kodagu district.

## **Karnataka Coastal Regions:**

The Karnataka Coastal Region, which extends between the Western Ghats edge of the Karnataka Plateau in the east and the Arabian Sea in the west, covers the Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada districts of the State. This region of Western Coast is traversed by several ridges and spurs of Western Ghats. It has difficult terrain full of rivers, creeks, peaks and ranges of hills. The coastal region consists of two broad physical units, the plains and the Western Ghats. The coastal plains represent a narrow stretch of estuarine and marine plains rarely exceeding 30 kms in width and at certain places the crests of adjoining Western Ghats reach the sea as close as 13 kms, near Karwar in Uttara Kannada. However, in the south the low land is somewhat wider with a maximum width of 70 kms. near Mangalore in Nethravathi valley. The average height is generally 75 metres from the mean sea level. To the east coastal plains the general elevation increases abruptly and this abrupt raise at the eastern flanks forms the Western Ghats. The northern parts of Ghats, which lie in Uttara Kannada district, are of lower elevation (450-600 metres) as compared to Southern parts (900-1500 metres) spread over Dakshina Kannada district.



# Physiography of Karnataka





# Beginnings ...

## Pre-history

The pre-historic culture of Karnataka was generally comparable with other parts of South India. It is known as hand-axe culture. The earliest find was in 1842 A.D when Primrose discovered or excavated an hand-axe at Lingsugur in Raichur district. Excavations were conducted by Dr. Paddaiah in 1974 at Hunasagi in Gulbarga district. Many sites were discovered or excavated by Robert Bruce-Foote and other scholars in Karnataka.

Pre-historic period is generally divided into Old Stone Age or Paleolithic Age and New Stone Age or Neolithic Age. Old Stone Age is again subdivided into Lower Paleolithic Age or Early Stone Age and Upper Paleolithic Stone Age.

The most prominent Paleolithic sites discovered or excavated in Karnataka are at Kadur, Lingadahalli and Nidaghatta in Chikmagalur district, Thalya and Janakal in Chitradurga district, Nyamati in Shimoga district, Khed, Dhanak Shirur and Manneri in Bagalkot district, Kibbanahalli and Belgere in Tumkur district, Satti in Belgaum district and Microlithic age site at Jalahalli in Bangalore district. Some weapons such as hand-axes and cleavers were found here.

The most important Neolithic age sites discovered or excavated in Karnataka are at Tekkalakote and Sanganakallu in Bellary district, Maski and Piklihal in Raichur district, Chandravalli and Brahmagiri in Chitradurga district, Tirumakudal Narasipur and Hemmige in Mysore district, Banahali in Kolar district, Hallur in Haveri district and Megalithic age sites are at Savanadurga in Bangalore Rural district, Terdal and Halingali in Bagalkot district, Tadakanahalli in Haveri district and Hirebenakal in present Koppal district etc.

The remains of some cereals, fossilated bone of horse and buffalo, earthen vessels, paintings including fine polished hand-axes, weapons have been found. Other findings include bangles, rings, necklaces of beads, ear-rings and other ornaments made of stone, bone, ivory, copper and gold including precious stones.

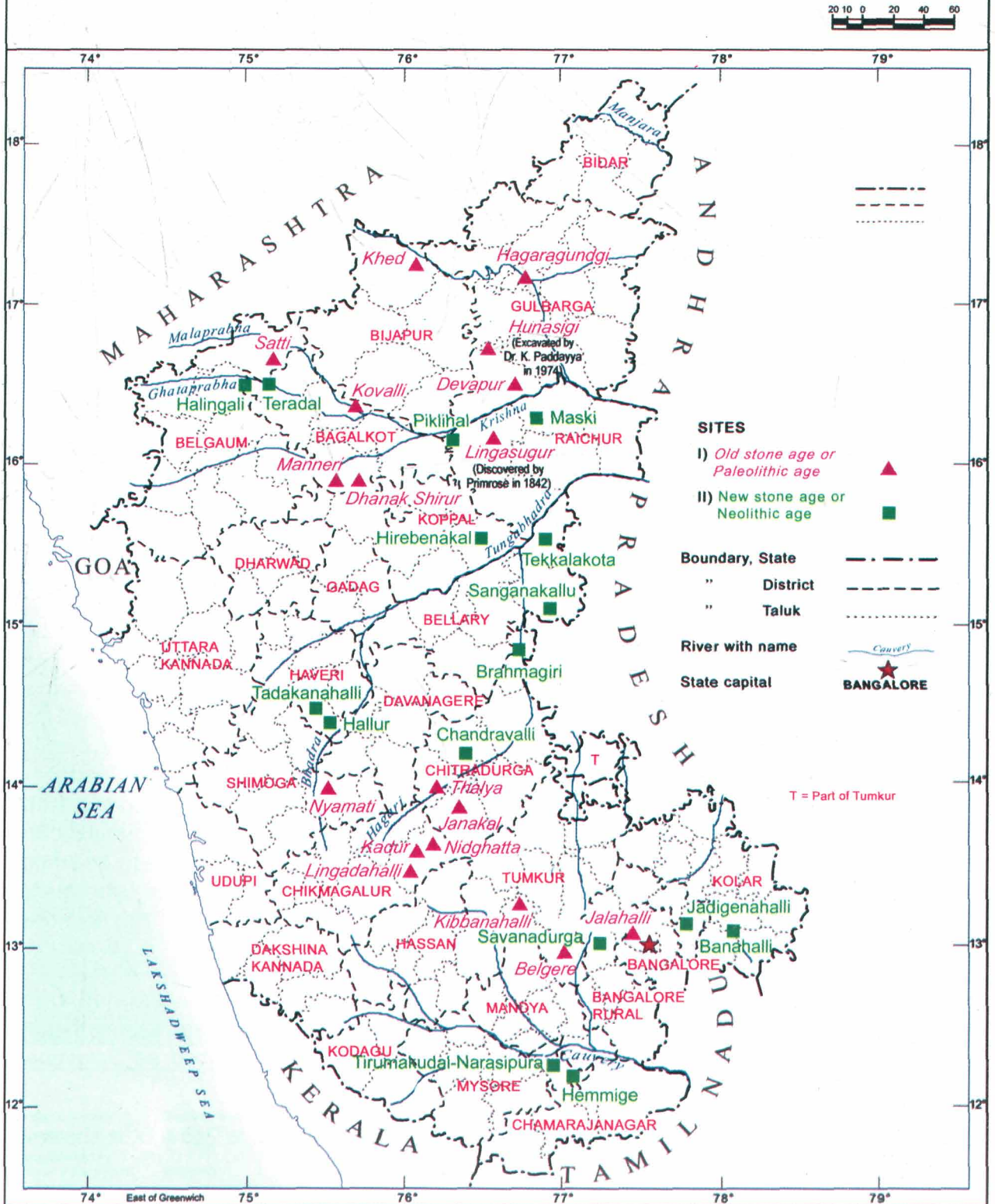
Some of the prominent pre-historic sites discovered and or excavated in Karnataka are shown in map 4.

## Early History

The historic period as per the written records begins only from about 400 B.C in Karnataka. The thirteen Ashokan edicts are the only inscriptions of this period. Mention is also made of a few mythological accounts connected in Karnataka. For eg., the Hampi region is described as Kishkindha of Ramayana, Hanagal is believed to be Viratapuri of Mahabharatha. **The Nandas and the Mauryas:** According to certain literary accounts, the Nandas who ruled from Pataliputra in Magadha are believed to have ruled over parts of Karnataka also. Singirajapurana, a Kannada work of 1500 A.D, states that the areas including Pattadakal were ruled by the Nandas. There are also records which state that Kunthala was under the rule of the Nandas.

The Mauryas, successors of the Nandas ruled over parts of Karnataka. The seventh century inscription states that the Chandragupta Maurya abdicated the throne and came down to Shravanabelagola in the present Hassan district and accepted Jainism. Ashokan edicts found in Karnataka show that major parts of Northern Karnataka were under the Mauryas. Jainism and Buddhism got fillip during the rule of Mauryas which influenced the cultural life of Karnataka of those times.

# Pre-historic sites of Karnataka





## The Satavahanas (250 B.C - 240 A.D)

Satavahanas are considered as the first of the royal dynasties in Karnataka. The Satavahanas were also called the Andhra dynasty. They originated in the Andhra region i.e., within the delta of Krishna and Godavari rivers and extended control from the east coast to west coast.

The Satavahanas dynasty rose to power after the disintegration of the Mauryan empire around 250 B.C., which established itself in the northwestern part of the Deccan i.e., in and around the present Nashik. They ruled for over 450 years over the whole Deccan including Andhra Pradesh in the east up to Srikakulam, Maharashtra and Gujarat in the west up to Kathiawar, Madhya Pradesh in the north up to Ujjain and Malva region and northern Tamil Nadu in the south up to the northern Chennai.

The founder of the dynasty was Simukha and his rule was in the northern part of the Karnataka, Hirehadagalli in the present Bellary district, Banavasi in the present Uttara Kannada district, Malavalli, Talagunda in the present Shimoga district, & Chandravalli in the present Chitradurga district and also major parts of modern Karnataka were included in the Satavahanas empire. They ruled over the present districts of Bidar, Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Raichur, Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri and Koppal. The Satavahanas previous capital city appears to have been '*Dhayna Kataka*' in the east, the present Dharanikota on the bank of river Krishna in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh. The western Kanarese districts fell into the hands of the lines of *Chutu Satakarnis* ruling from Banavasi.

King Satakarni one of the major ruler called lord of the west, defied Kharavela of Kalinga. His conquests took him north of the Narmada into eastern Malvas and gained control of the region of Sanchi.

In the first and second century A.D., Gautamiputra and his son Vasisthiputra Pulumavi ruling Deccan, extended their territory in the east to Amravati and the Krishna delta region and they were more successful in their attacks on the Saka territory. Towards the end of the second century, the Satavahanas held Kathiawar on the west coast, the Krishna delta and northern Chennai to the south east, further their extent was Konkan in the west to the Berar in the east up to Krishna river and Kannada country at the mouth of river Krishna in the south to Malva, Saurashtra in the north. Gautamiputra, the destroyer of the Shakas, Yavanas and Pahlavas, defeated Kshatrapas and occupied Ajmer and Pushkar of the present Rajasthan in the north and he ruled over Nashik, Pune and western ghats peninsula of Saurashtra or Kathiawar. Yagnashri the last king controlled the whole of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

They had their capital at Paithan on the banks of the Godavari in Maharashtra in the Aurangabad district. Amravati in Guntur district attained eminence in the Satavahanas period. Inscriptions call them the *Kuntalaswami* and a region in Bellary is described as *Satavahani rashtra*.

The greatest extent of the Satavahanas dynasty during 250 B.C. to 240 A.D. is shown in map 5



# The Satavahanas (250 B.C - 240 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Aegidi	Goa	Kisuvola	Pattadakal	Surparaka	Sopara
Bhrugukachha / Brouch / Barygaza	Bharuch	Krishnagiri / Kanhagiri	Kanheri	Suvarnagiri-religious character	Kanagagiri
Charsonisas	Karwar	Nashikya	Nashik	Thana	Thane
Chicacole	Chittakula	Pishthapura	Pitapur	Ujjayini / Ujjeni / Ujjini / Ujjini	Ujjain
Dhanya Kataka	Dharanikota	Poona	Pune	Vaijayanthipura / Vanavasa	Banavasi
Karahataka	Karhad	Pratishthana	Paithan	Viratapuri	Hanagali
		Surastra / Sourashtra	Kathiawar	Vijayapuri	Nagarjunakonda

## The Kadambas of Banavasi (325 A.D - 540 A.D)

The Kadambas ruled from Banavasi over central, western and northwestern parts of Karnataka and continued to be independent rulers from third to sixth century A.D. for about two hundred and twenty five years and were the second important dynasty in Karnataka.

The Kadambas extended their boundaries from the western part of Kodagu and Rathnagiri in the west up to the Ucchangi and Chandravalli in the east and from the Malaprabha river in the north up to Tumkur and Hemavati in the south with Haiga in Uttara Kannada district and Tuluva in Udupi district and also Goa. The original capital was Banavasi or Jayanthipura or Vaijyanthipura situated on the bank of river Varada in present Uttara Kannada district. They were in possession of northeast of Mysore and evidently the kingdom was to the northwest of the Palar river. The Kadamba kingdom extended over an area of present Belgaum, Uttara Kannada, Shimoga, Chitradurga, Chikmagalur, Dakshina Kannada, Hassan and Bellary districts in Karnataka state.

The domain of the Kadambas included the northwest of Mysore region, where they succeeded the Satavahanas, the Pallavas occupying east, and the Gangas at the center and south partially expelling the Mahavalis. While the Kadambas were in possession of the northwest, a part of the north was under the rule of the Katchuris of Konkan.

Mayura Sharman, a young Brahmin scholar from the Talagunda agrahara in the Shimoga district went to Kanchi for higher learning. There he was enraged by the Pallavas. He took the life of a Kshatriya, revolted and founded a new dynasty from Banavasi. There was a Kadamba tree near their original house, the dynasty name was derived as the Kadambas. Mayura Sharman and Kakusta Varma were the important rulers of the Kadamba dynasty. The Kadambas ruled with a great glory, they called themselves as a *Dharmamaharajas* and they were the founders of the Karnataka architecture. At the end of the time of Kakusta Varma, the dynasty was divided into two parts of Banavasi region and Thripurvata region.

The Kadamba kings built temples and Jain basadis in Palashika or Halasi in present Belgaum district, Thripurvata or Devagiri in Dharwad district. Halasi and Ucchangi were their provincial capital.

The Chandravalli inscription speaks of a tank created by Mayura Sharman. The rock-cut shrine (cave) at Arvalem in Goa is their creation. The first Kannada record, Halmidi inscription (from near Belur) belongs to them.

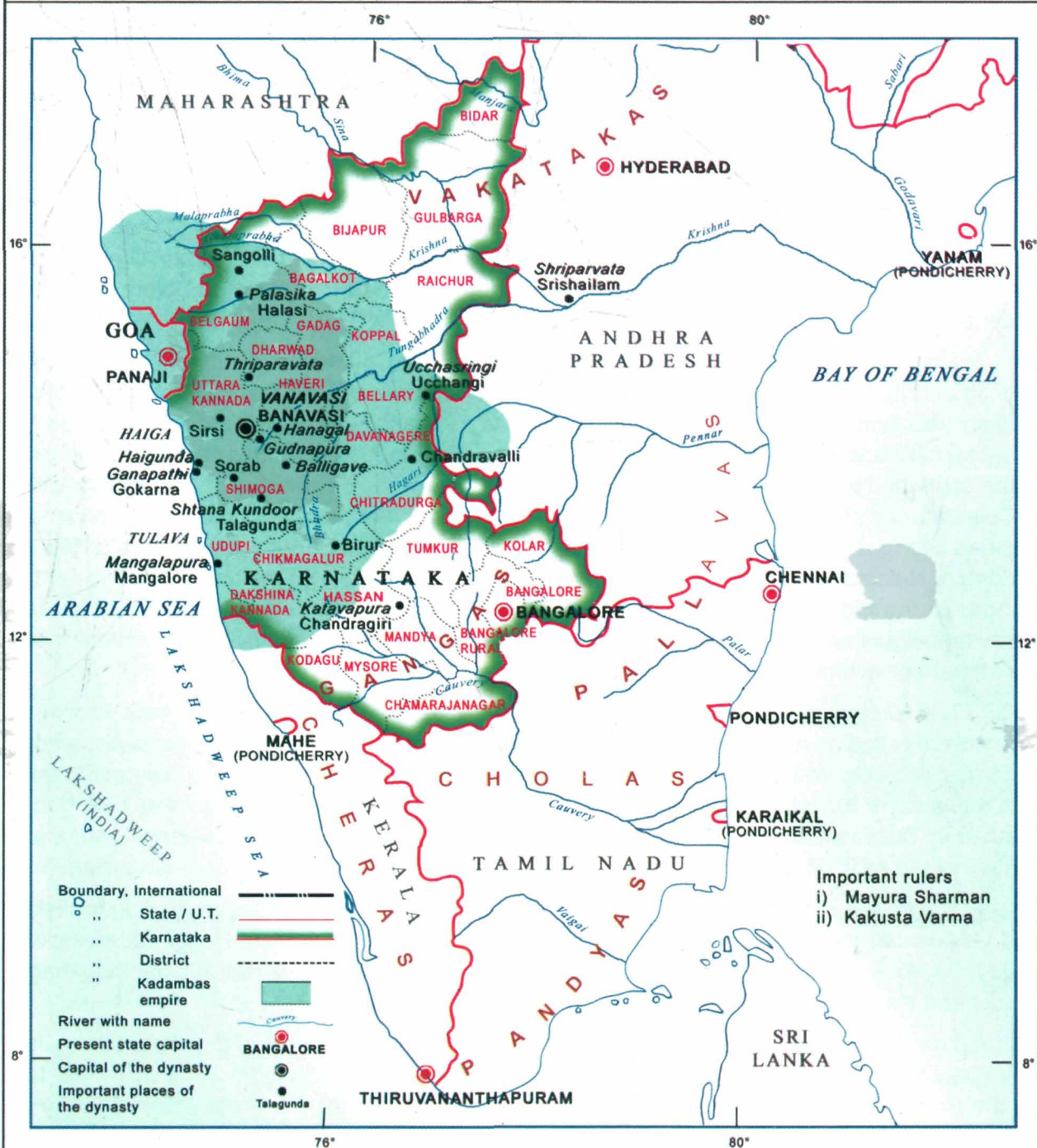
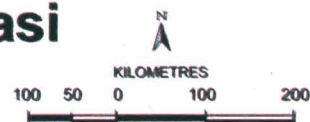
The largest extent of the Kadambas dynasty during 325 A.D to 540 A.D is shown in map 6.





Royal emblem of the Kadambas

# The Kadambas of Banavasi (325 A.D - 540 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Balligamve / Balipura / Balligrama / Balliganve	Balligave	Palasika	Halasi	Shtana Kundoor / Sthanagundur	Talagunda
Ganapathi	Gokarna	Prehara (River)	Melaprabha (river)	Thripurvata	Devagiri
Katavapura	Chandragiri	Punnata	The area between the Kaveri and Kabini River	Ucchasingi	Ucchangi
Mangalapura	Mangalore	Shripurvata	Shrishailam	Vanavasi	Banavasi
				Viratapuri	Hanagali



## The Gangas of Talakad (325 A.D - 1004 A.D)

The Gangas ruled from Talakad in south Karnataka from the early fourth century A.D. They ruled for about seven hundred years and came to power in south in 325 A. D. This is one of the most important dynasties in south India and was the third in Karnataka. Their first capital was Kolar and later they shifted to Talakadu. Initially they were a sovereign power and later became subordinate allies of the Chalukyas of Badami and the Rashtrakutas.

The areas where the Gangas ruled were almost in southern Karnataka in the old Mysore region and north western part of Tamil Nadu and parts of Andhra Pradesh from Kodagu in the west to the Perur in the Coimbatore-Salem region called Kongu country. Their territory was called Gangavadi. The Gangas had a line of kings who ruled over the greater part of the erstwhile Mysore state and of the Cauvery river basin excepting the delta of Thanjavur. Their kingdom included Tumkur, Bangalore, Kodagu, Shimoga, Chitradurga, Bellary, Hassan, Davanagere, Mandya and Mysore districts in Karnataka state. They had the Coimbatore and Salem region too under their control.

The founders of the Ganga dynasty are from Perur in Coimbatore district. This is in Kongu country and they are called 'Konguni Arasar' in Tamil inscriptions. The first important ruler of the dynasty was Avinita, who was crowned while he was an infant in his mother's lap. He married the daughter of Skanda Varma Raja of Punnadu. Avinita seems to have extended the Ganga dominion to the south and east for he had waged sanguinary wars for the possession of Andari and Alattur in Coimbatore district. Sripurusha, whose name was Muttarasa was the grandson of Shivamara and had a long and prosperous reign. His kingdom was called as *Srirajya*. Manyapura or Manne in north of Nelamangala taluk was also their capital for some time and the royal residence of the Gangas in the eight century. Begur, Manne, Narasmangala and Talakadu have their temples, Shravanabelgola and Kambadahalli have fine bastis. Monolithic Gommata at Shravanabelgola is their great achievement.

The territory, which was occupied and ruled over by the Ganga kings, was known as Gangawadi called as ninety six thousand province and the existing Gangavadi-karas are among its former subjects. At the time of the foundation of the Ganga kingdom its chief city and capital was Kuwalala or Kuwalalapura the present Kolar. But in sixth century the capital was changed to Talakad or Talavanapura on the Cauvery river basin in the south east of the Mysore district and this remained as their capital for long.

They ruled over Karnataka and other places viz., Porulare, Pennagara in Salem district and Gejjalahatti near Satyamangalam in Tamil Nadu, Punnata in present Heggadadevanakote taluk in Mysore district and Shivanasamudram in Malavalli taluk, Satyagala in Chamarajanagar district and Nandagiri (Nandihills) in Kolar district.

The Gangas are generally remembered for their magnificent work of the statue of the Jain Saint Bahubali at Shravanabelgola. Durvinita was the great author of Shabdavatara, a commentary on the Sanskrit work by celebrated *Jaina Grammarian Pujiyapada*. He wrote a commentary on one of the chapters of Kiratarjuniya (a well-known poem by Bharavi). Among the early Kannada authors mentioned by Nrupatunga is Durvinita, the son of Avinita. Minister Chavundaraya who installed Gommata wrote Kannada Chavundaraya Purana.

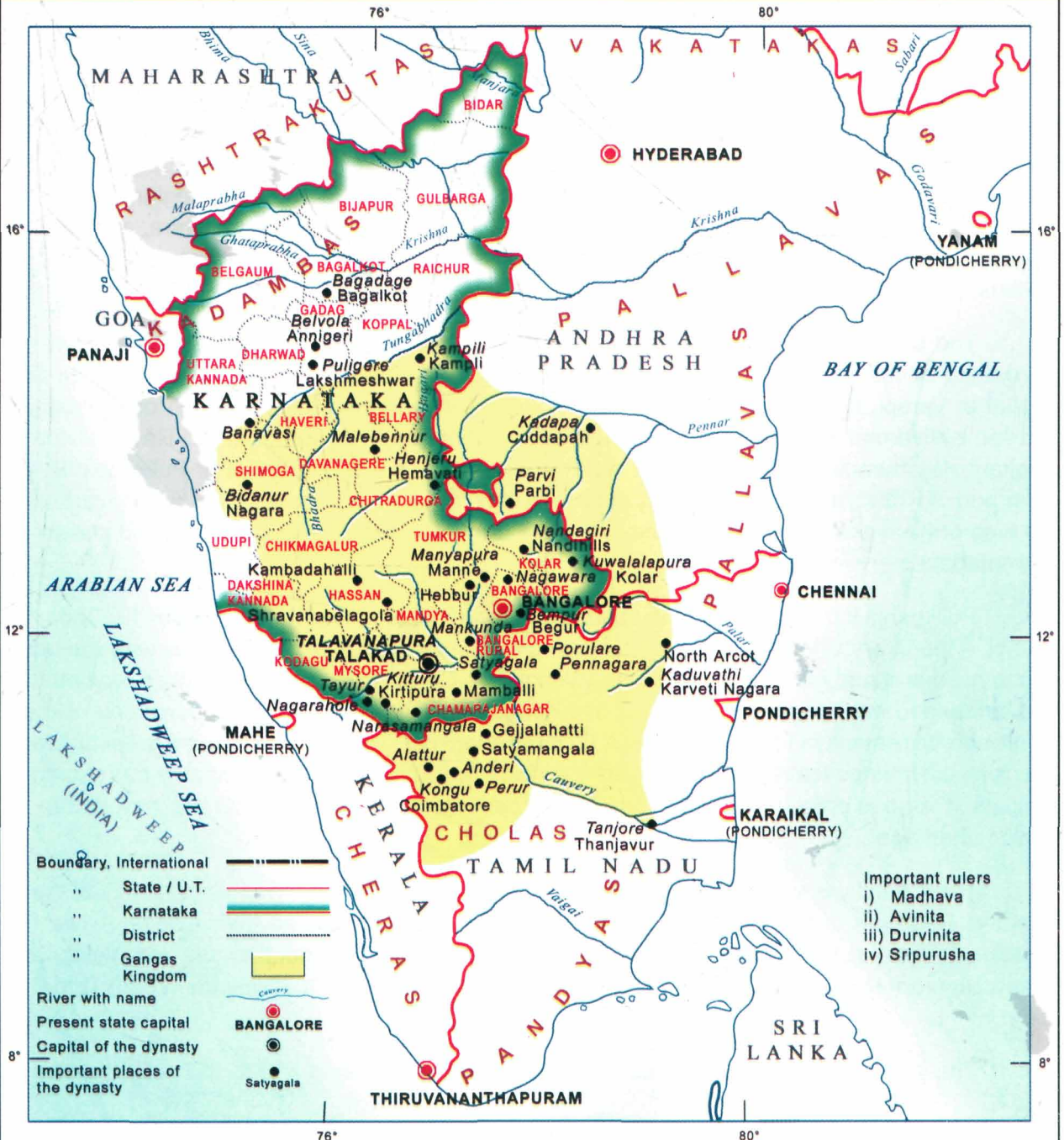
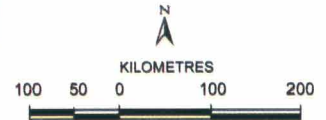
The greatest extent of the Gangas dynasty during 325 A.D to 1004 A.D., is shown in map 7.





Royal emblem of the Gangas

# The Gangas of Talakad (325 A.D - 1004 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bana country	Kolar and Dharmapuri region	Kampili	Kampili	Nandegiri	Nandihills
Bempur	Begur	Kitturu	Kirtipura	Parvi	Near Hindupur
Perur	Near Coimbatore	Kongu	Coimbatore	Punnata	Name of the region
Henjeru	Hemavati	Kuwalalapura	Kolar	Talavanapura	Talakad
Kaduvathi	Karveti Nagara	Manyapura	Manne		

## The Chalukyas of Badami (500 A.D - 757 A.D)

In mid sixth century A.D the Chalukyas began to rule with a base in Vatapi or Badami. First they appeared in south of the Narmada river in the fourth century and were subordinates of the Kadambas of Banavasi. They ruled from 500 A.D. to 757 A.D for about two hundred and fifty years and were the first dynasty who brought Karnataka under a single rule.

The Chalukya kings established an empire reaching up to the Narmada river and the Vindhya range in the north to the Cauvery river in the south and from Pishtapura, Kosala and Kalinga in the east up to the Konkan, Goa and Surat in the west. In the course of a long reign extending up to entire Maharashtra the whole of the Deccan from the banks of the Narmada river to the region beyond the Cauvery and they ruled fully and most of the present Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, and parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. This empire was created by Pulikeshin II ( 609 A.D - 642 A.D).

The Chalukyas, who turned sworn enemies of the Pallavas of Kanchi, rose to power in Karnataka or the Kannada *speaking* country in the sixth century A.D. and they had their first capital at Vatapi, the present Badami taluk in Bagalkot district was the creation of Pulikeshi I. His son Kirtivarman's younger brother Mangalesha conquered the island called Revati-Dvipa in Konkan. He attempted to instal his own son on the throne, but Satyashraya or Pulikeshin II, the elder son of Kirtivarman obtained the throne. His most notable victory was over Harshavardhana the king of Kanyakubja or Kanauj. The Chalukya army was famous for its valour and known as 'Karnatabala'.

Pulikeshin II master of *Dakshinapatha*, acquired Pishtapura or Pithapuram in the Godavari district. A feudatory Chalukya chieftain belonging to a junior branch of the royal line was stationed at south Gujarat and his younger brother at Vengi. The Chalukya army crossed the river Cauvery and befriended with the Cholas, Pandyas and Kerals. Though the Pallavas overpowered Pulikeshi II, his son Vikramaditya I (655 A.D - 662 A.D) threw them out. The Chalukyas were great builders. The rock-cut shrines (caves) at Badami are their wonderful creations. Aihole nearby has scores of temples in various styles. Pattadakal has magnificent monuments. UNESCO has included them in world heritage.

The Chalukyas were separated into two branches of which the Eastern Chalukyas made Vengi in Godavari district and later Rajamahendri or Rajahmundry as their Capital, while the Western Chalukyas with whom Karnataka is chiefly concerned, continued to rule from Vatapi and eventually from Kalyana in the Bidar district. In between ruled the Rashtrakutas (753 A.D to 973 A.D).

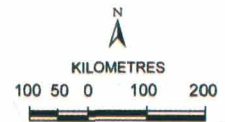
The largest extent of the Chalukyas of Badami dynasty during 500 to 757 A.D is shown in map 8.





Varaha lanchana  
Royal emblem of the Chalukyas of Badami

# The Chalukyas of Badami (500 A.D - 757 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Elichapur / Echalapura	Achalapura	Lattaluru / Lattanur	Latur	Rajamahendri	Rajahmundry
Amroati	Amaravati	Nasikya	Nashik	Revathi - Dvipa	Redi
Etagiri	Yadgir	Navasrika	Navasari	Sthanaka	Thana
Gadagu	Gadag	Pampatirtha	Hampi	Talakadu	Talakad
Hanagallu	Hanagal	Pandharapura	Pandharpur	Uragapura	Uralyur
Kanchi	Kancheepuram	Pishlapura	Pithapuram	Valapi / Badamios	Badami
Kisuvola	Pattadakallu	Puligere	Lakshmeshwara	Verula	Yellora
Kopana	Koppal	Puri	Rajapuri		



## The Rashtrakutas of Malkhed (757 A.D - 973 A.D)

The Rashtrakutas were an ancient royal family of Karnataka and masters of whole Deccan. They began to rule in 735 A.D. and won the imperial throne in 757 A.D. The Rashtrakutas ruled from 757 A.D. to 973 A.D., for over two hundred years.

The Rashtrakutas established an empire extending from Thanjavur and Kanchi in the south, up to the Malva, south Gujarat, Baghelkhand and the Narmada river in the north and from Konkan in the west, up to the Wainganga river, the Godavari district and Srishailam in Andhra Pradesh. Their capital was *Manyakheta* the present Malkhed in Gulbarga district. They ruled over the whole of Maharashtra and almost entire Karnataka and parts of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Their territory at that period was referred to as Rattawadi.

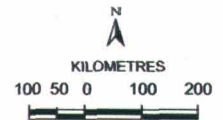
They ruled over Karnataka and other adjoining areas viz., Baroda and Surat in Gujarat, Nashik, Satara and Morkhand (Bidar district) in Karnataka, Baghelkhand in Madhya Pradesh, Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Badami, Halebedu, Belur, Mysore, Talakadu, Kalyana, Manne or Manyapura (in Nelamangala taluk) etc. The Gangas of Gangavadi were their subordinate allies.

A subordinate ruler of the Badami Chalukyas, Dantidurga revolted against Kirtivarma II in 753 A.D and became an emperor in 757 A.D. Krishna I, who succeeded Dantidurga, conquered southern Konkan and established the supremacy of the Rashtrakutas. In the north he drove the king of Dhara into the desert of Marvad. Dhruva was the next ruler of the dynasty, he was ruling as governor over the Nashik and Khandesh region. He levied tribute on the ruler of Kanauj in the north. Govinda III or Prabhutavarsa was one of the most powerful kings of his line. He also levied tribute on the ruler Kanauj. In the south, he defeated the rulers of Tamil Nadu and Kerala and marched till Rameshwaram in the south and levied tribute on the ruler of Sri Lanka and Dantiga the ruler of Kanchi in south. Next ruler Amoghavarsha was a great scholar and a Sanskrit work (*Prashnottara Rathnamala*) is ascribed to him. Indhra III ascended to the throne and ruled till 922 A.D. He conquered Kanauj in 914 A.D.

The beautiful monolithic Kailasa temple of Ellora was erected by Krishna I. Nrupatunga I, evidently took a great interest in the Kannada country and literature. First extant Kannada poem Kavirajamarga was composed in his court. The region which extends from the 'Cauvery to the Godavari in the country in which Kannada is spoken, the most beautiful land in the circle of the earth'. Badami, Ellora and Elephanta, places of that time are important present tourist places. The later Rashtrakuta king Krishna III expanded an empire in the south in Tondaimandalam. Pampa a great Kannada poet flourished during their rule.

The greatest extent of the Rashtrakutas dynasty during 757 A.D. to 973 A.D. is shown in map 9.

# The Rashtrakutas of Malkhed (757 A.D - 973 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Elichapur	Achalapura	Kanchi	Kancheepuram	Nanda Giri	Nandi Hills
Amroati	Amaravati	Kandhar	Kandharapura	Nasikya	Nashik
Bagevadi	Basavanabagevadi	Kisuvotai	Pattadakallu	Navasarika	Navasari
Baroda	Vadodara	Koppa	Koppal	Puligere	Lakshmeshwara
Bhrugukachha	Broach	Lattalur	Latur	Rajmahendravaram	Rajmahendri
Kadapa	Cuddapah	Manyakheta	Malkhed	Sthanaka	Thana
Kalyana	Basavakalyana	Mayurkhanda	Morkhand	Tanjore	Thanjavur



## The Chalukyas of Kalyan (973 A.D - 1189 A.D)

The Chalukyas ruled from Kalyana, the present Basavakalyana in Bidar district from the tenth century A.D to twelfth century A.D. ( 973 A.D. to 1189 A.D) for over two hundred years after the defeat of the Rashtrakutas.

The boundary extended in the south to the banks of the Cauvery up to Salem and Coimbatore districts and up to the Narmada river in the north. From Konkan in the west up to the Vengi and Nellur in the east. The Chalukyas of Kalyana ruled the entire Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra and parts of Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Taila II was the founder of Chalukya dynasty of Kalyana who overthrew the Rashtrakutas in 973 A.D., seems to have earlier ruled over Kogali 500 and the adjoining country. He claims descent from the Chalukyas of Badami. Someswara I was the most powerful king and one of the great monarchs of the family. He created the new capital Kalyana. Vikramaditya VI (1076 A.D-1127A.D) was a great emperor. The author on Hindu law Vijnyaneshwara (work : Mitakshara) was patronised by him. His commander Mahadeva built the most magnificent temple at Itagi (Yalburgi taluk). His son, Someshwara III compiled a Sanskrit encyclopaedia called Manasollasa. Vikramaditya's daughter's son, Bijjala usurped power and founded the rule of the Kalachuris who ruled between 1162 to 1184. Basaveshwara, the great religious reformer was his treasure. In 1184 Chalukyas overthrew the Kalachuris. But their rule ended in 1189 A.D.

The feudatories of the Chalukyas like the Hoysalas, Kakatiyas and the Seunas (Yadavas) became powerful, and Chalukya rule ended.

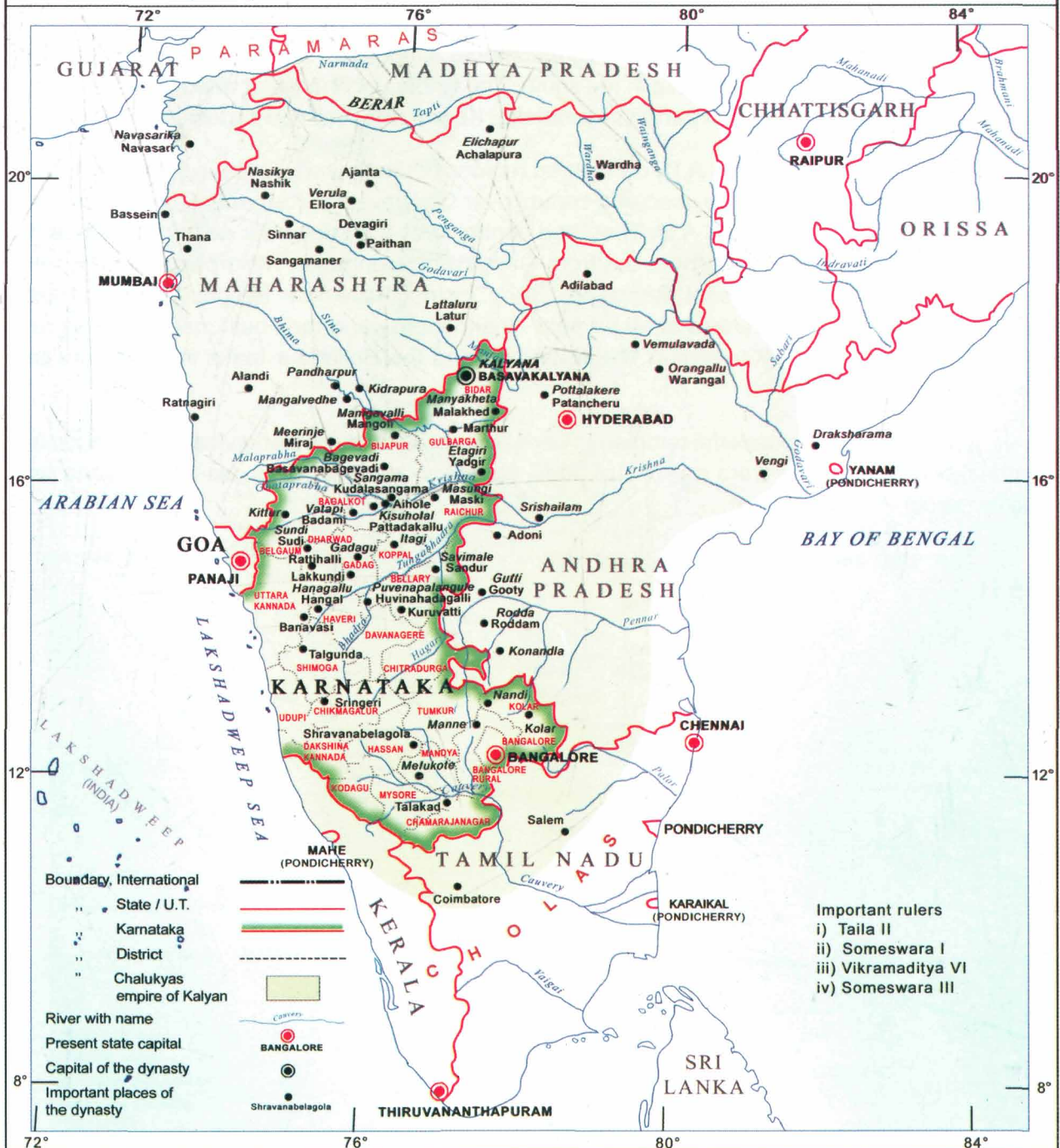
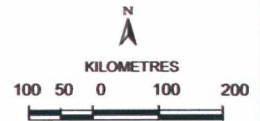
The Chalukyas were great patrons of art and built beautiful temples at Itagi, Lakkundi, Kuruvatti, Bagali, Gadag etc. known for their intricate carvings. Kannada writers like Durgasimha (Panchatantra), Ranna (Gadayuddha), Chavundaraya II (Lokopakara) lived in their times. Basaveshwara and his followers created rich Vachana literature in Kannada.

The largest extent of the Chalukyas of Kalyana dynasty during 973 to A.D 1189 A.D. is shown in map 10.



Varaha lanchana  
Royal emblem of the Chalukyas of Kalyan

# The Chalukyas of Kalyan (973 A.D - 1189 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Elichapur	Achalapura	Mangalavada	Mangalvedhe	Rodda	Roddam
Bagevadi	Basavanabagevadi	Masangi	Maski	Sangama	Kudalasangama
Etagiri / Yatagiri	Yadgir	Meerinje	Miraj	Savimale	Sandur
Kadapa	Cuddapah	Navasari / Nausari	Navasari	Sundi	Sudi
Kalyana	Basavakalyana	Pottalakere	Patancheru	Verula	Ellora
		Puven Palgule / Puvina Padangile	Huvina Hadagali		



## The Cholas of Thanjavur (985 A.D - 1122 A.D)

The Cholas ruled over parts of south India from tenth century A.D to twelfth century A.D, from Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu for about hundred and fifty years.

Their boundary extended from Shrirangapattana, Cuddapah and Dharnikota in the north up to the Rameshwaram and Srilanka in the south. The Cholas of Thanjavur ruled the entire Tamil Nadu and Srilanka and southern parts of Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.

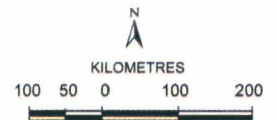
Rajaraja (985 A.D - 1016 A.D) conquered regions of Gangavadi, Rattavadi, Nolambavadi, Andhra, Kongu and Kalinga. They secured control over Gangavadi in Karnataka by overthrowing the Gangas of Talakadu in 1004 A.D. They had control over this region for nearly 110 years, till Hoysala Vishnuvardhana threw them out from Gangavadi. Honganur, Malurpatna and Kudalur in Channapatna taluk in present Bangalore Rural district have fine temples built by them. Rajadhiraja founded the agrahara at Malur near Channapatna and they built many temples and excavated many tanks in Karnataka. The Pattandur and the Bellandur tanks in Bangalore are their creations.

The Cholas built wonderful temples in Tamil Nadu at Thanjavur, Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Kumbhakonam etc. They were patrons of Tamil literature. Kamban composed Ramayana and Sekkilar wrote Periyapuranam.

The greatest extent of the Cholas dynasty during 985 A.D. to 1122 A.D. is shown in map 11.



# The Cholas of Thanjavur (985 A.D - 1122 A.D)



Important rulers  
i) Rajaraja I  
ii) Rajadhiraja  
iii) Kulothunga I

## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bayalnad	Vainad	Kanchi / Kanjevaram	Kanchipuram	Nandidurga	Nandihills
Ceylone	Srilanka	Mamallapuram	Mahabalipuram	Quilon	Kollam
Dhanyakataka	Dharanikotta	Mahodayapuram	Malappuram	Seringapattanam	Shrirangapattana
Ilam	Srilanka	Manyapura	Manne	Tanjore / Tanjavuru	Thanjavur
Kuvalala	Kolar	Mudigonda	Mudugunda		

## The Seunas or Yadavas of Devagiri (1198 A.D - 1312 A.D)

The Seunas or the Yadavas of Devagiri originally rose to power in 835 A.D in the Nashik region. They conquered major parts of the Chalukya empire in the northern Deccan at the end of the twelfth century. They ruled from 1198 A.D. to 1312 A.D., for about hundred and twenty five years.

The Seunas empire grew up to its maximum size with the Narmada river in the north and the Tungabhadra river in the south as its boundaries. In the west the Konkan, Bombay, Goa and the west coast of south Gujarat and considerable parts of Andhra Pradesh in the east under their control. The boundaries included the most of Maharashtra and Goa and parts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

They ruled portions of the Gutti - Chandragutti in Sorab taluk and Nematti or Nyamati in Honnali taluk. They acquired important places viz., Warangal and Ananthapura in Andhra Pradesh, Kollapura in Maharashtra, Banavasi in Uttara Kannada, Belvola, Puligere and Lakkundi in Gadag district.

Some scholars narrate that, the Seunas were earlier feudatories of the Rashtrakutas and Chalukyas of Kalyana. The early ruler, Dridhaprahara started ruling from Sindiner (Sinnar) near Nashik. The word Seuna is derived from the name Seunachandra I, who rose to importance in the Nashik region and his descendants ruled over the Seuna or Sevuna country, extending from Nashik to Devagiri.

Bhillama V was the important and real founder of the dynasty, he defeated ruler of Mangalavada and the Kalachuris and captured Srivardhana, a hill port in Konkan, Pratyandaka or Parenda in Osmanabad district, Bijapur region, Soratur and Lakkigundi (modern Lakkundi) in Gadag district.

The important ruler Singhana II ruled mainly northern Karnataka, Maharashtra and parts of Andhra Pradesh. The Seunas capital city was Devagiri, the present Daulatabad.

The Yadavas are of indigeneous Kannada origion and they originally belonged to the Kannada area and due to the political exigencies they moved to Nashik and Ahmedabad region.

They were great builders and their Hemadapanthi temples are seen at Sinnar, Ramtek near Nagpur, Nilanga in Maharashtra and Yadur (Chikodi taluk) in Karnataka. Hemadri, a scholar and minister wrote Chaturvarga Chintamani in Sanskrit. Sarangadeva wrote Sangita Ratnakara. Kannada poet Chaundarasa composed Dashakumara Charite. Delhi Sultans ended their rule.

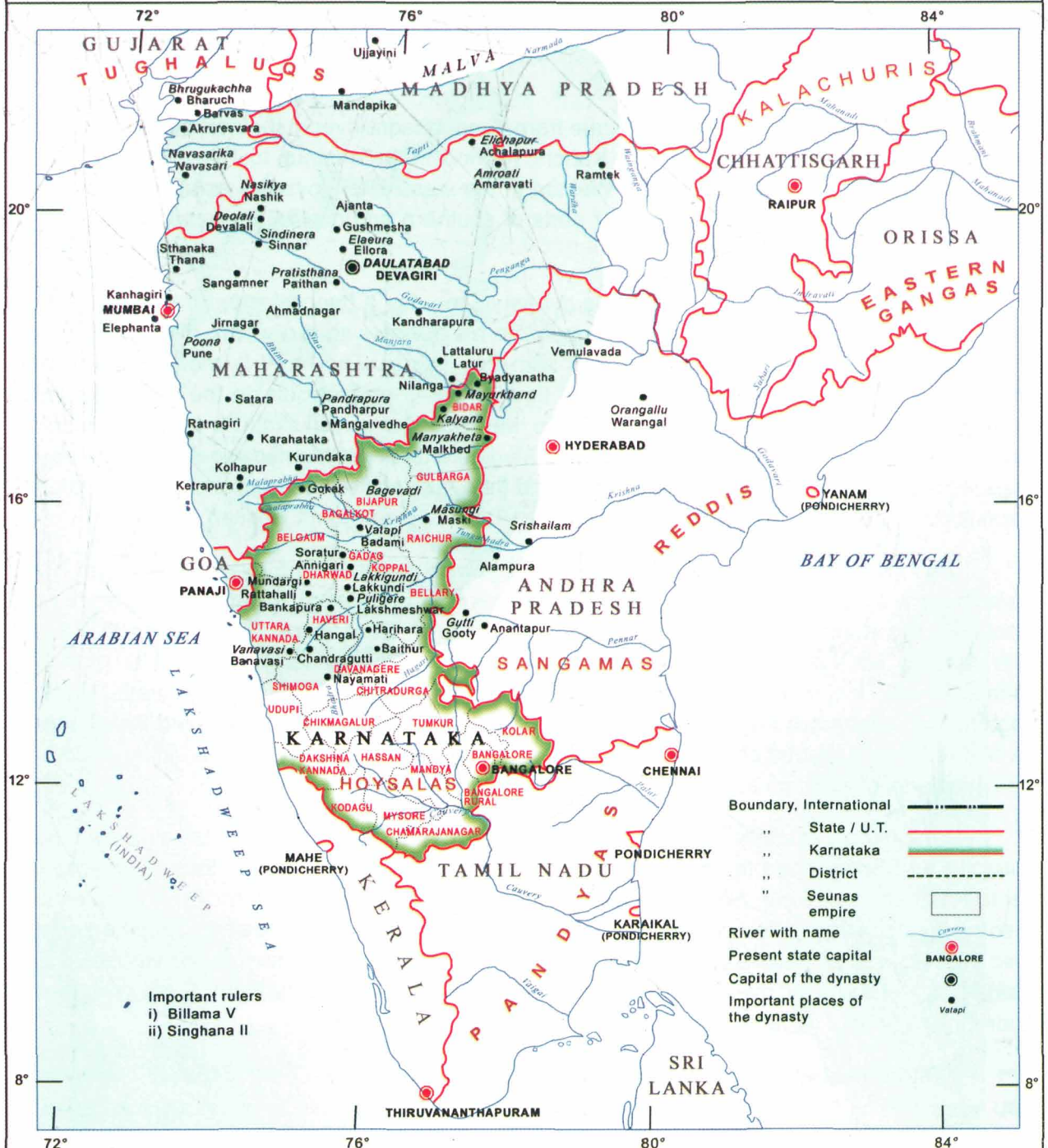
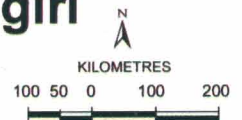
The largest extent of the Seunas dynasty during 1198 A.D to 1312 A.D is shown in map 12.





Royal emblem of the Seunas

# The Seunas or Yadavas of Devagiri (1198 A.D - 1312 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Devagiri	Daulatabad	Lakkigundi	Lakkundi	Orangallu	Warangal
Deololi / Devalahalli	Devalali	Mangalavede	Mangalvedhe	Pandrapura / Pandharapura	Pandharpur
Dwaravati	Dwaraka	Nasikya	Nashik	Poona	Pune
Gove	Goa	Navasari	Navasari	Sindinera / Seunapura	Sinnar
Gutti	Gooty	Nyamatti	Nyamati		

## The Hoysalas of Dorasamudra (1000 A. D - 1346 A.D)

The Hoysalas of Dorasamudra started their rule from the eleventh century from south Karnataka. They were a Kannada speaking family, who ruled with great glory up to the fourteenth century from 1000 A.D. to 1346 A.D., for nearly three hundred and fifty years. Earlier they were subordinates of the Chalukyas of Kalyana.

The Hoysalas ruled the present state from Tungabhadra river in the north, up to the Vaigai river and Madurai in the south and from Kanchi, Kurnool in the east, up to Tulu countries (Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada) and Wainad in the west. The Hoysalas established a strong state and they extended their power over parts of southern and coastal Karnataka and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

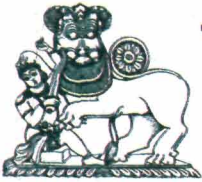
Sala was the founder of Hoysalas dynasty. One day a tiger attacked the temple where he was studying. His teacher thrust a dagger into his hands with the words *Hoy* (strike) *Sala*. The young Sala fought and killed the tiger with the dagger. The story is mentioned in many epigraphs and the figure of Sala killing, the tiger which is carved outside the temple at Belur became the family emblem. Their native place was Sosevur or Sasakapura which is identified with Angadi in the western ghats in the south of Mudigere taluk in Chikmagalur district. The earlier kings were Jains, their first capital was Belur and then they shifted the capital city of Hoysalas to Dorasamudra or Dvaravati now Halebidu in Belur Taluk of the present Hassan district.

Vishnuvardhana was the governor of Gangawadi and he captured Talakadu and Kolar (*Talakadugonda* a title is memory) from the Cholas. He proceeded towards the Nilagiris and reached up to Kanchi, Nolambavadi, Hanagal, Uchchangi, Bankapura, Banavasi and Lakkundi near Gadag. He captured Tulu country and Hosanagar in Shimoga district. His grandson Ballala II was victorious over Banavasi, Hanagal, Halsi, Puligere, Nolambavadi, Belvola, Bagadage, Eramparge, Kisukadu, Ayyanavadi, Masavadi, Kelavadi, Sindarige and Ballakunderi. He had reached as far as south Kannanur Kuppam near Srirangam. He became independent as the Chalukyas of Kalyana ended in 1189 A.D.

Bankapura, Banavasi, Gadag, Kolar, Manyapura, Humcha, Hemavathi, Shravanabelagola, Balligave and Sringeri are the important places. Their important temples are found at places like Belur, Halebidu, Melukote, Somanathapura and Amritapura in their kingdom. Their temples built in soft soapstone are famous for their intricate carvings and neat workmanship. They had control over Wainad now in Kerala region and parts of the Gangawadi. Ramanujacharya visited and resided at Melukote for over two decades. Kannada poets Janna, Harihara, Raghavanka and Rudrabhatta (work : Jagannatha Vijaya) were patronised by them.

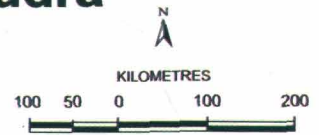
The greatest extent of the Hoysalas dynasty during 1000 A.D. to 1346 A.D. is shown in map 13.





Royal emblem of the Hoysalas

# The Hoysalas of Dorasamudra (1000 A.D - 1346 A.D)



- IMPORTANT RULERS**  
i) Vishnuvardhana  
ii) Ballala II  
iii) Ballala III

## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bagadage	Bagalkot	Erambarge	Yelburgi	Puligere	Lakshmeshwar
Balliganve	Belgami	Gutti	Gooty	Seringapatnam	Shrirangapatana
Ballakunderi	Balkunde	Hanagallu	Hanagal	Sosevuru (Shashakapura)	Angadi
Dwarasamudra / Dvaravati		Kanchi	Kancheepuram	Singam	Srirangam
Dorasamudra	Halebidu	Kongu country	Coimbatore		



## The Vijayanagara Empire (1336 A.D - 1565 A.D)

The great Vijayanagar empire was founded in 1336 in south India. And they ruled for nearly two hundred and thirty years from 1336 A.D. to 1565 A.D.

The Vijayanagar empire extended from the Krishna river in the north, up to the sea shore of Ceylon or Sri Lanka in the south and in the east till Cuttack. They ruled over the whole of south India having control over all the regions up to the Krishna river including the Kerala, Goa, Tamil Nadu and parts of Andhra Pradesh.

Founders of Vijayanagara Harihara and Bukka ruled over the southern bank of the Tungabhadra river and of its suburb Anegundi on northern bank of the Tungabhadra river. Vijayanagara empire was ruled by three successive dynasties such as the Sangamas, Saluvas and the Tuluvas. Harihara II extended his territories from the Krishna to Kurnool. The important rulers of this empire were Devaraya II and Krishnadevaraya.

The capital was obviously called Vidyanagara (city of learning) at first, but by a natural transition came to be known as Vijayanagara (city of victory).

Devaraya II was also known as Praudha Deva Raya. He had the title *Gajaventekara*, and defeated the Bahmanis in the north and fought three wars against the Gajapatis of Kalinga (Orissa). Devaraya II appointed his right hand man Lakkanna Dandesha to the *Lordship of Southern Sea* and he levied tribute on Srilanka.

Krishnadevaraya was the most powerful and distinguished monarch of the Vijayanagar line. Krishnadevaraya expanded Vijayanagara Empire up to Raichur in the north and reached Kalinga in the east by conquering Cuttack. Present Hampi, the former capital site of the capital of the Vijayanagar empire in the present Hospet in Bellary district is one of the important tourist places in Karnataka, with a place included in the list of world heritage monuments by the UNESCO. Foreign travelers have praised the empire for its grandeur, trade and prosperity and described it as *the never forgotten empire*.

Vijayanagara empire included Karnataka, Andhra and Tamil Nadu. The Vijayanagara rulers not only built the Krishnaswamy, Vithalaswamy and Hazara Ramaswamy temples at the capital but expanded the old temples at Tirupathi, Kalahasti, Srishailam, Kanchi, Srirangam, Chidambaram etc. by providing the temples with huge prakaras (compounds), tall gopuras at the entrance and highly artistic mantapas.

They encouraged literature in Sanskrit, Kannada, Telugu and Tamil. Kumaravyasa wrote Kannada Bharatha. Purandaradasa and Kanakadasa composed Kannada devotional songs. In Telugu, Peddanna wrote Manucharitamu and Krishnadevaraya composed Amuktamalyada.

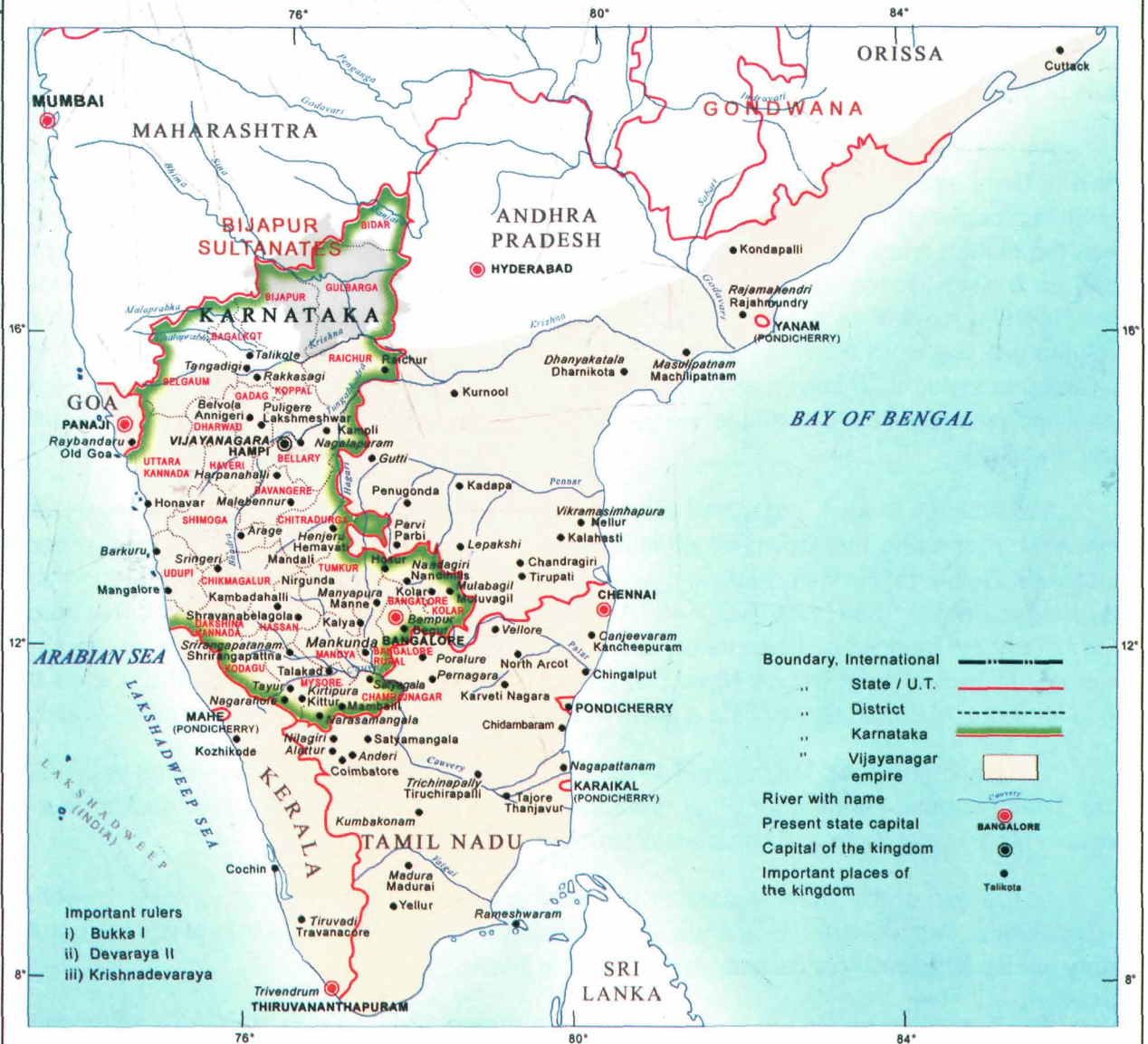
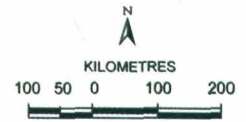
The largest extent of the Vijayanagara empire during 1336 A.D. to 1565 A.D. is shown in map 14.





Varahalanchana  
Royal emblem of the Vijayanagara empire

# The Vijayanagar Empire (1336 A.D - 1565 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Ceylone	Srilanka	Masulipatnam	Machilipatnam	Trivendrum	Thiruvananthapuram
Dhanyakataka	Dharanikota	Mulavagil	Mulubagil	Tanjore	Tanjavur
Kuvalala	Kolar	Nagalapuram	Hospet	Tiruvadi	Travancore
Kanchi / Canjeevaram	Kancheepuram	Quilon	Kollam	Udayagiri Fort	Udayagiri
Kongu country	Coimbatore region	Rakkasagi-Tangadigi	Rakkasatangadi	Vanavasi	Banavasi
Madura	Madurai	Srirangapatanam	Shrirangapattana	Vijayanagara / Vidyannagara	Hampi
Manyapura	Manne	Trichinapally	Tiruchirapalli	Vikramasimhapura	Nellur

## The Bahmani Kingdom (1347 A.D - 1527 A.D)

The Bahmani kingdom was established in the fourteenth century and they ruled in the northern Deccan from 1347 A.D. to 1527 A.D. nearly for about hundred and seventy five years.

The Bahmani dominion extended from the Wainganga and Tapti river in the north to Krishna river in the south and from Daulatabad, Kathiawar, Bombay and Goa in the west coast, up to in the erstwhile Nizam dominions and the Godavari district on the east coast, including the whole of Maharashtra and parts of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka.

As per tradition, Hasan was the founder of Bahmani kingdom. He was a poor *Afghan*, a native of Delhi and he was originally a servant of the Brahmana astrologer named Gangu. One day while ploughing in a small piece of land, accidentally he found some hidden treasure against which the plough-share had struck. His master cast his horoscope and foretold that one day he would be a King. Hence, the name Bahmani is derived from Brahmana. He finally succeeded in establishing himself as a ruler of the Deccan and fixed his capital as Kulbarga now called as Gulbarga. The word Gulbarga is derived from an original Kannada name *Kalambarage*. His descendents styled themselves as kings of Bahmani dynasty. Hasan selected Gulbarga as his capital and renamed it as Ahsanabad. He divided it into four provinces viz., Gulbarga, Daulatabad, Berar and Bidar.

Mahammad Shah I, organized different limbs of his government, like the ministry, the household troops and the provincial administration. He built the famous Jami Masjid, a huge structure at Gulbarga. He was chiefly engaged in waging wars against the rulers of Warangal and Vijayanagar. Feroze Shah (1397 A.D -1422 A.D) was the great ruler of the dynasty, not only heroic but scholarly. He founded an observatory at Daulatabad. He also built a new town Ferozabad and gave shelter to Sufi saint Bande Nawaz at Gulbarga. His successor Muhammad II shifted the capital to Bidar. Mahmud Gawan is a great minister who built the wonderful 'madrassa' at Bidar.

The Bahmanis have left behind fine forts at Gulbarga and Bidar, and wonderful palaces at Bidar. Their tombs at Ashtur near Bidar are attractive monuments. Jami Masjid at Gulbarga and Gawan's Madrasa at Bidar are remarkable structures.

At the end of the fifteenth century the Bahmani kingdom had broken up into five states namely Bijapur, Ahmednagar, Golconda, Birar and Bidar. The first of these with which Karnataka history will be principally concerned was founded in 1489.

The largest extent of the Bahmani kingdom during 1347 A.D. to 1527 A.D, is shown in map 15.



# The Bahmani Kingdom (1347 A.D - 1527 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Elichapur	Achalapura	Kadwad	Karwar	Mudagallu	Moodgal
Amroati	Amaravati	Kalyana	Basava Kalyan	Nasikya	Nashik
Bidare	Bidar	Karahataka	Karhad	Orangallu	Warangal
Daulatabad	Devagiri	Ashanabad / Kulbarga	Gulbarga		

## The Adil Shahis of Bijapur (1489 A.D - 1686 A.D)

In the fifteenth century A.D. the Bijapur Sultanates began to rule from Bijapur and western Deccan in Maharashtra and Karnataka and their administration continued for about two hundred years from 1489 A.D. to 1686 A.D. Yusuf Adil Khan, a Governor of Bijapur under the Bahmanis asserted his independence in 1489.

The territory of Bijapur Sultanates extended from the Bangalore, Arcot and the Palar river in the south and from the river Bhima to the Arabian sea in the north and from Adoni, Nandyal and the Manjra river in the east up to the Ratnagiri, Goa and Cape Ramas in the west. They ruled over Pune and Solapur in Maharashtra, parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Initially they ruled over an area of Belgaum, Dharwad, Raichur, and parts of Uttara Kannada, Gulbarga in Karnataka and Solapur, Kolhapur, Rathnagiri districts in Maharashtra and of Goa.

Five separate Sultanate arose in the Deccan by breaking the Bahmani Kingdom. They were known after the title of their founder as the Imad Shahi dynasty of Berar, the Nizam Shahi dynasty of Ahmadnagar, the Adil Shahi dynasty of Bijapur, the Qutb Shahi dynasty of Golconda and the Barid Shahi dynasty of Bidar. The Bijapur was properly called as Vijayapur and it is distinguished as Bijapur.

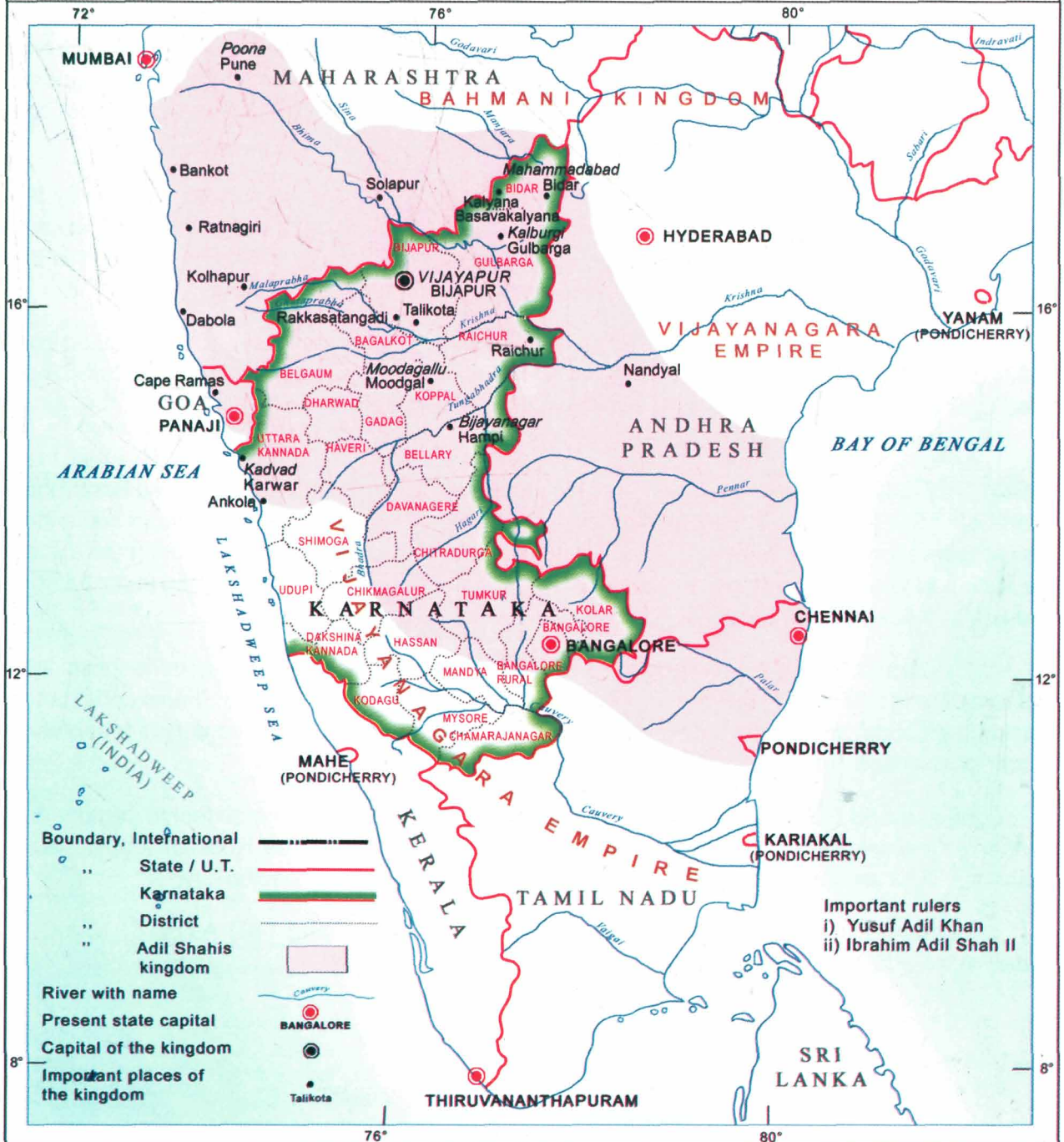
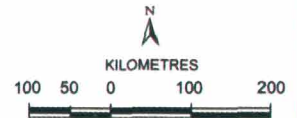
The first ruler and founder of the kingdom was Yusuf Adil Khan. He ruled over the limits of the western boundaries of Bankot and Cape Ramas. In 1510 they lost Goa to the Portuguese. Ibrahim II (1580 A.D - 1626 A.D) was a great ruler who composed Kitab-e-Nauras in Urdu introducing Hindu music. He built Ibrahim Rauza at Bijapur. Between this power and the Vijayanagara empire there were constant collisions until in 1565. The battle of Talikota terminated the power of the latter. The Shahi kingdoms defeated Vijayanagara in 1565 A.D and the capital city was captured. In 1577, a raid was made into the conquered territory, but repelled by the defence of Jagadeva Raya at Penugonda. Ibrahim II's son, Ali I secured the fort of Adoni belonging to Vijayanagara in 1568 A.D. He also conquered Dharwad and Bankapur. In 1637, a more formidable invasion to the south took place. They reached Bangalore and Arcot. Shahji was appointed Jahgirdar at Bangalore. But in 1686 A.D the Mughals conquered Bijapur.

The Adil Shahis built wonderful buildings like Ibrahim Rauza, Gol Gumbaz and Jami Masjid at Bijapur. They also created beautiful tanks like Taj Bavadi and Chand Bavadi. They also encouraged music and painting.

The greatest extent of the Adil Shahis kingdom of Bijapur during from 1489 to 1686 A.D is shown in map 16.



# The Adil Shahis of Bijapur (1489 A.D - 1686 A.D)



## Ancient and modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bengaluru	Bangalore	Kalyana	Basavakalyana	Moodagallu	Mudgal
Bijanagar / Bijayanagar	Hampi	Kadvad	Karwar	Rakkasagi & Tangadagi	Rakkasatangadi
Doab	The region between the Krishna and Tungabhadra river	Kalbargi	Gulbarga	Vijayapur	Bijapur
		Mahammadabad / Bidare	Bidar	Vijayanagar	Hampi

## The Barid Shahis of Bidar (1487 A.D - 1619 A. D)

In the fifteenth century A.D, the Bahmani kingdom disintegrated into five smaller Sulthanates. Later, the successor states of Bijapur, Bidar, Berar, Ahmednagar and Golconda were created. Five Sulthanates rose to power in Deccan i.e., the Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar, the Adil Shahis of Bijapur (Shias), The Qutb Shahis of Golconda (Shias), The Imad Shahis of Berar (Sunni) and the Barid Shahis of Bidar ( Sunni). The Barid Shahis, one among the five kingdoms that came into existence after fall of the Bahamanis, ruled from Bidar in Karnataka for about one hundred and twenty years from 1487 A.D to 1619 A.D.

The Barid Shahis capital was Bidar. The domain of Barid Shahis was surrounded by the Imad Shahis of Berar and the Godhavari river in the north to the Krishna river, Raichur Doab and Vijayanagar kingdom in the south and from Qutb Shahis of Golconda in Andhra Pradesh in the east up to Adil Shahis of Bijapur and Nizam Shahis of Ahmednagar in the west.

The first ruler and the founder of Barid Shahis kingdom was Amir Kasim Barid. He ruled from 1487 A.D to 1504 A.D. He clashed with Yusuf Adil Khan whose power he attempted to curb. They ruled over an area of Bidar, Basava Kalyana and Bhalki etc.,

Amir Kasim's son Amir Ali Barid was a second ruler of this Kingdom. He ruled from 1504 A.D to 1542 A.D. He formally declared his independence in 1527 A.D. His son Ali Barid Shah ruled from 1542 to 1579 A.D. He participated in the battles of Ahmednagar and Bijapur and joined the confederation against Vijayanagar. Ali Barid was followed by five kings and during this period the state had lost its strength and importance. Both Ahmednagar and Bijapur aimed for its capture and finally it was annexed. In 1619 A.D Bidar was annexed by Bijapur.

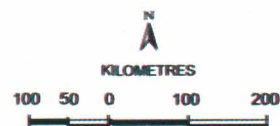
The Kannada language and people of this region of Karnataka did not get better position in this rule than the Bahmani rule. Among its monuments the tombs of the Barid Shahis constructed outside the capital are artistic and impressive. The history of the sixteenth century is a confused record of alliances and counter alliances.

Bijapur and Bidar were in turn were overrun by the Mughuls in the sixteenth century and northern Karnataka lost all vestiges of an independent existence. The Russian tourist Nikitin describes Bidar as a populous country with safe roads and wonderful capital city.

The largest extent of the Barid Shahis Kingdom of Bidar during 1487 A.D to 1619 A.D, is shown in map 17.



# The Barid Shahis of Bidar (1487 A.D - 1619 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Ashanabad / Kulbarga	Bidar	Kalyana	Basava Kalyan	Orangallu	Warangal
Bidare	Gulbarga	Mudagallu	Mudgal	Surapur	Shorapur

## The Nadaprabhus of Yelahanka (1420 A.D - 1728 A.D)

The Yelahanka Nadaprabhus are more popularly known as the family of Kempegowda, the builders of early Bangalore. They ruled for over 350 years, from the second half of 14<sup>th</sup> Century to 1728 AD. Ruling from Yelahanka in the present Bangalore urban district, their rule appears to have spread even to Magadi, Ramanagaram, Kunigal, and Savanadurga. They remained as sub-ordinates of Vijayanagara rulers. Ranabhairegowda was the first known ruler of the family during the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. The person responsible for building the modern city of Bangalore in about 1537 was Kempegowda-I (1510 – 1570 AD), who was the grandson of the first ruler. It is said that he built the modern city of Bangalore at the instance of Achyutaraya (1529-1542 AD) the emperor of Vijayanagara. The four towers to mark the borders of Bangalore were built by his son and successor Kempegowda II who ruled during 1585 -1633 AD. But Bangalore now has far exceeded these limits.

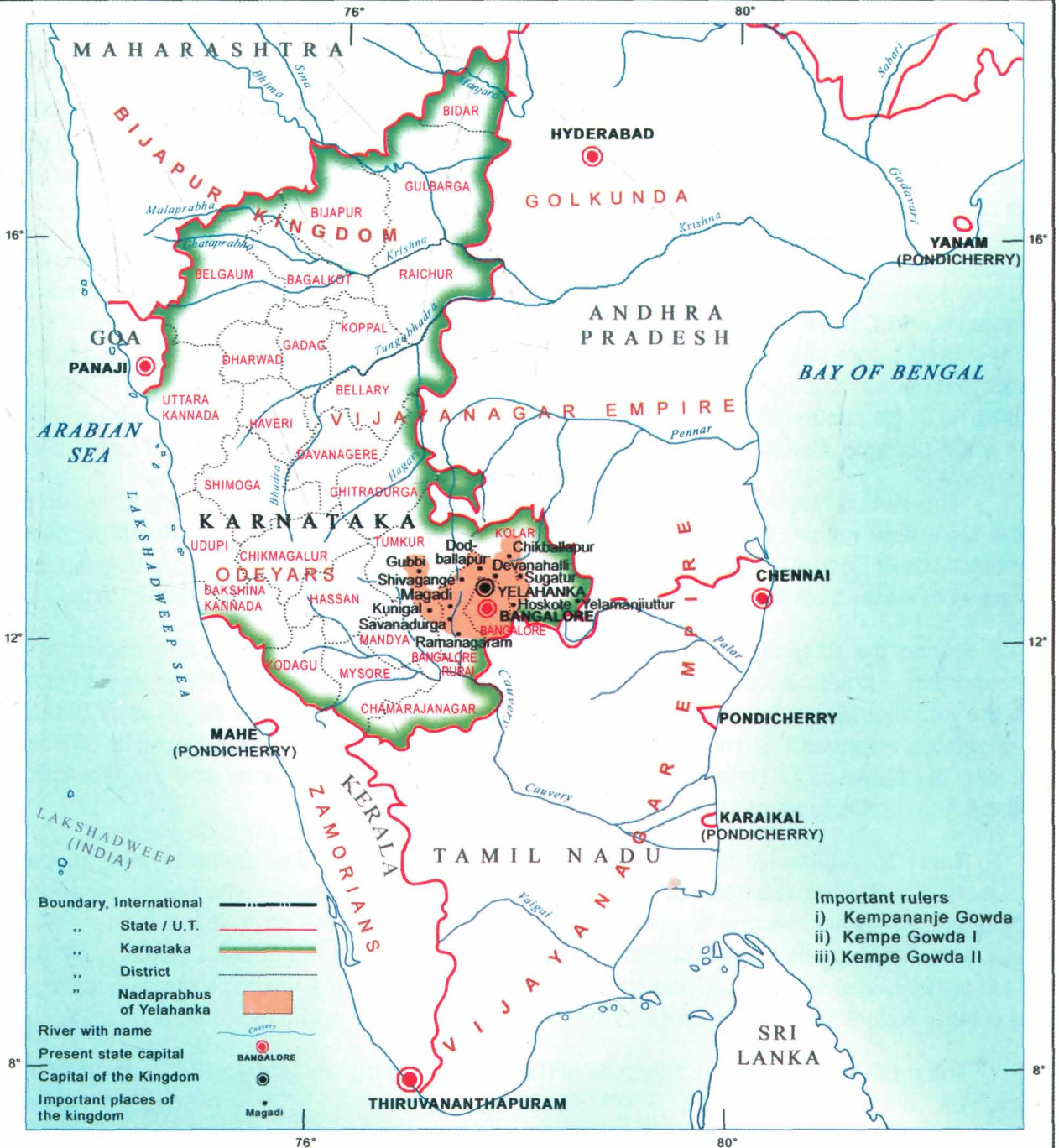
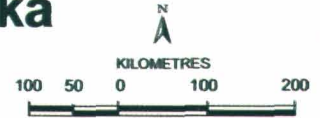
The other rulers of the family included Kempegowda III (1633-1678 AD), Doddaveerappa (1678 -1710 AD) and the last ruler Kempaveerappa (1710-1728 AD). In 1638 Bijapur army captured Bangalore and the family was forced to shift its headquarters to Magadi. They ruled from Magadi and strengthened the fort of Savanadurga. Mysore rulers ended their rule in 1728.

The temple of Basava in Basavanagudi, Someshwara temple in Ulsoor, Gavigangadhara temple in Gavipura, Kempambudi, Dharmambudi, Ulsoor and Sampige Tanks, Rameshwara temple at Magadi and Veerabhadra temple in Savanadurga, were built by these rulers. Their rule helped in making Bangalore an important commercial and industrial centre.

The largest extent of the Nadaprabhus of Yelahanka during 1420 A.D to 1728 A.D is shown in map 18.



# The Nadaprabhus of Yelahanka (1420 A.D - 1728 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bengalu-Uru	Bangalore	Halasooru	Ulsoor	Ooscotta	Hoskote
Bengaluru	Bangalore	Makalidroog	Makali	P. Ballapoor	Dodballapur
C. Ballapoor	Chikballapur	Nundydroog	Nandi Hills	Ramanagara	Ramanagaram
Deonhully	Devanahalli	Nellamunghim	Nelamangala	Saven droog	Savanadurga

## The Nayakas of Keladi (1500 A.D - 1763 A.D)

The Nayakas or Palayagars ruled from Ikkeri and Keladi in Karnataka in the Western Ghat ranges early in the fifteenth century from 1500 A.D to 1763 A.D. for more than two hundred and fifty years. Initially they were subordinates of the Vijayanagara kings.

The Keladi kingdom extended from Honavar to Cannanore in the west coast, up to the Chitradurga and Tumkur in the east. The whole districts of Shimoga, Chikmagalur, Dakshina Kannada, Kasaragod and major part of Uttara Kannada and parts of Hassan, Chitradurga, Tumkur, Dharwad and Kodagu districts were included in their kingdom. Later Bidanur became their capital.

Chaudappa, a subordinate of Vijayanagara was the founder of the dynasty in 1499 A.D. Sadashiva Nayaka was the first notable ruler of Keladi kingdom, who was conferred with Barkuru, Mangalore and Chandragutti and Bhatkal territories and the title *Kotekolahala* (destroyer of forts) by the Vijayanagara emperors. The greatest king Shivappa Nayaka of Bidanur began to rule from Keladi and he was the most distinguished ruler in Bidanur territory, who reigned from 1646 A. D. to 1660 A. D. He secured complete control over the Kanara coast till Nileswara (Kerala) and built forts at Chandragiri, Bekal and Mangalore. He is famous for his revenue settlement called 'Sist'.

The Keladi Nayakas were the important rulers in the sixteenth century and especially in the Malenadu region. *Hobli, Gadi and Seeme*, were formed at the time of Keladi kingdom. Famous ports of Basruru, Mangalore, Honavar, Ankola, Kasargod, Nileswara and Malarpatnam in Kerala were under their control and they were engaged in highly profitable overseas trade.

During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries the Vijayanagara kings had conferred on the subordinate chiefs. An account of each of these palegar families will be found in connection with the localities which formed their respective estates. Among them, the Nayakas of Bidanur, Basavapatna in present Shimoga district and Chitradurga on the east, the Nayakas of Balam at Belur, the Nayakas of Hagalwadi and the Kempe Gowda of Yelahanka and the Gowdas of Sugatur and the Odeyars of Mysore in the south.

Rani Chennammaji ruled Keladi from 1672 A.D., after the death of her husband Somasekhara. She provided shelter and escort to Shivaji's son Rajaram who had escaped from the clutches of Aurangzeb and helped him to reach his territory in the south and she successfully fought with the Moghals. Kannada folk songs also commemorate the queen Chanammaji. After the fall of the Vijayanagar empire, the Nayakas of Keladi resumed the role to protect Hindu religion and culture. Keladi lost its entity in 1763 when Hyder Ali invaded and conquered it.

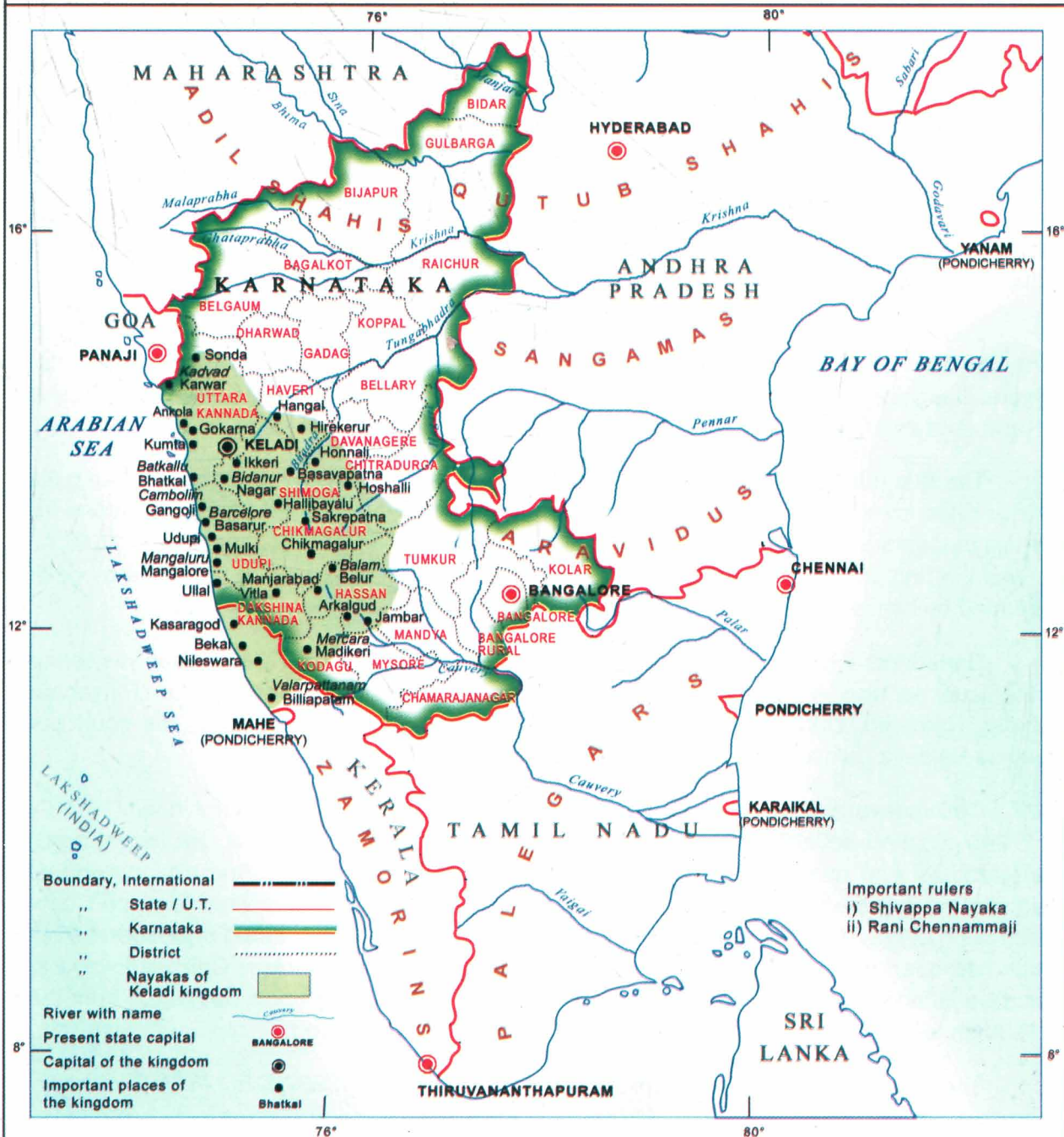
The greatest extent of the Nayakas of Keladi kingdom during 1500 to 1763 A.D., is shown in map 19.





**Berunda**  
Royal emblem of the Nayakas of Keladi

# The Nayakas of Keladi (1500 A.D - 1763 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Batkallu	Bhatkal	Bidanur / Bednur	Nagar	Kadved	Karwar
Balam / Aiguru	Belur	Billiapatam	Valarpattanam	Manjarabad	Sakleshpur
Bekala	Bekal	Cambolim	Gangolli	Mercara	Madikeri
Barcelore	Basrur	Dorasamudra/ Dvaravatipura	Halebidu		

## The Odeyars of Mysore (1399 A.D - 1761 A.D)

The Odeyars began to rule first in Mysore in present Karnataka from 1399 to 1761 A.D. The early Odeyars ruled nearly for about three hundred and seventy five years up to the eighteenth century A.D.

In the history of the royal family of Mysore, their origin is traced to two young Kshatriyas of Yadava descent who left Dwaraka in Gujarat, with the view of establishing themselves in the south. On arriving at *Hadinad*, or *Hadinaru*, a few miles south east of the present city of Mysore, they learned that the local chief had just died and his wife and daughters were alone. One of the daughter became the bride of Vijaya, who was made ruler of her father's territory in 1399 A.D. and he took the title of *Odeyar* and assumed the government of Hadinad and Karugahalli. The territories were further extended westwards in all the districts up to the Bababudan mountains including Hassan, Banavar and Chikmagalur.

The early Odeyars of Mysore Kingdom extended from the Shimoga and Madhugiri in the north up to the Dindigallu and Tiruchirapalli in the south. They ruled over the Whole districts of Mysore, Bangalore, Mandya, Kolar, Tumkur and Chikmagalur and the areas of Vastara, Hoskote in Karnataka and Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Selam and Erode in Tamil Nadu.

The first ruler Vijaya or Yaduraja ruled from 1399 to 1423 A.D. Later, the ninth king Raja Odeyar ruled from 1573 A.D. to 1617 A.D. He was the chief who wrested Shrirangapattana from the Vijayanagara viceroy and shifted his capital from Mysore to Shrirangapattana in 1610 A.D. He was the first prominent ruler of the Odeyar dynasty. Raja Odeyar made his name by getting confirmed by himself the title of *Mysore Raja* by the Vijayanagara rulers.

Ranadheera Kantheerava ruled from 1638 A.D to 1659 A.D. He extended his territory further and he also wrested a number of places viz. Kaveripura, Bettadapura, Piriapatna, Kunigal, Ratnagiri, Dannayakanakote, Satyamangala, Hosur and Yelahanka. His court poet, Govinda Vaidya composed Kantheerava Narasaraja Vijayam in Kannada.

Chikkadevaraja Odeyar was one of the most important and powerful ruler (1673 A.D to 1704 A.D) who developed Mysore into powerful Kingdom in south India. He fought against the Marathas who had strong force. He used his political skill to forge one alliance and with Mughals. He assumed the title *Apratimaveera*. He accumulated a treasure which obtained for him designation of *Navakoti Narayana* meaning *Lord of nine crores*. He secured a prosperous state which had been established. He was a patron of poets like Tirumalaraya, Chikupadhyaya and Sanchiya Honnamma. His alliance with the Mughals helped him to secure Bangalore from them in 1689 on lease. He built the Venkataramana temple in Bangalore fort.

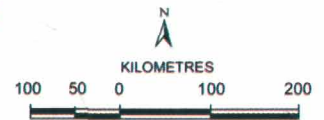
The largest extent of the Odeyars of Mysore kingdom during 1399A.D to 1761A.D.is shown in map 20.





Berunda  
Royal emblem of Odeyars of Mysore

# The Odeyars of Mysore (1399 A.D - 1761 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Aiguru	Belur	Tripura	Kolar	Seringapatnam	Shrirangapattana
Dorasamudra	Halebid	Venkatagiri	Makali	Tripura	Tiruchirappalli
Henjeru	Hemavati	Manne	Manyapura	Venkatagiri	Vengatagiri Kote
		Nandidroog	Nandi Hills		

## The Marathas (1637 A.D - 1687 A.D)

The early Marathas ruled in Karnataka from 1637 A.D To 1700 A.D when Ranadullah Khan, the Bijapur commander invaded Karnataka in 1637 A. D. Shahaji Bhosle had accompanied him.

Shahaji conquered Bangalore from the Kempegowda' s family and the surrounding regions like Hoskote, Kolar, Chikballapur, Doddballapur and Sira. Adil Shah granted these areas as jahgir to Shahaji. And part of his jahgir was in the north at Kanakagiri near Raichur. Shahaji died in 1664 A.D at Hodigere near Channagiri taluk in Shimoga district. Shahaji's son Ekoji succeeded to the Bangalore jahgir. Ekoji conquered Tanjore the present Thanjavur and shifted his headquarters to that place. Soon after this Bangalore was conquered by the Mughals and handed over to Chikkadevaraya of Mysore.

Shahaji's second son Shivaji was born in 1627 A.D. at Shivaneridurga in Maharashtra, and he stayed in Bangalore in his childhood. The atmosphere of Vijayanagara times still continuing in Bangalore and it inspired Shivaji to think of swaraj and revolt against Bijapur rule around Pune, and he did revolt in 1646. In 1677 A.D Shivaji came to south, asking for the share of his father's southern jahgir and conquered the whole of the Bangalore Jahgir and also Kolar, Doddaballapur and Chikballapur areas. Later he returned Bangalore to his elder brother Ekoji staying at Tanjore.

He conducted many campaigns in Karnataka in the Bijapur territory. He plundered Mudhol, Gadag, Raibagh and Lakshemshwar and acquired Khanapur, Ankola and Karwar on the west coast and captured the fort of Koppal. The whole western region between the Tungabhadra and Krishna river came under his control. He built and repaired the forts at Ramdurg, Katkol, Bhimgad, Vallabhagad and Parasgad in Belgaum district and Gajendragad, Naragund and Sriphthgad. Shivaji ruled and controlled the whole of the Konkan from Daman in the north to Karwar in the south excepting Goa, and he ruled over the districts of Nashik and Pune and the whole of Satara and most of Kolhapur. He held Koppal, Kolar, Vellore, Arni and Jingi. Shivaji was influenced by both Hindu political tradition. Later the Peshwas from Pune secured territories to the north of Tungabhadra in Karnataka.

The largest extent of the Maratha Kingdom in Karnataka during 1637 A.D. to 1687 A.D. is shown in map 21.



# The Marathas (1637 A.D - 1687 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Amroati	Amaravati	Kualala	Kolar	Madura	Madurai
Bednur / Bidanur	Nagar	Kopal	Koppal	Tanjore	Thanjavur
Kollagari	Kolhapur			Trichinopoly	Tiruchirappalli

## The Mughals in Deccan (1657 A.D - 1757 A.D)

The Mughals ruled over Deccan from seventeenth century A.D to eighteenth century A.D for about 100 years and this is one of most important dynasties in India. In 1657 emperor of India Shahjahan appointed his son Aurangazeb as the administrator in the Deccan. Aurangazeb invaded the Bijapur territory and won the forts of Kalyana and Bidar which became parts of the Mughal empire permanently. Aurangazeb appointed his son Kambaksh as administrator of the Bijapur province.

Aurangazeb captured Bijapur, Golconda and Raichur, Bellary, Shimoga and Dharwad regions and he formed a new province in 1687 with Sira as its capital and composed of the seven Paraganas consisting of Basavapatna, Budihaal, Sira, Penugonda, Dodballapur, Hoskote and Kolar. The Mughul empire reached its greatest extent and became the largest single state ever known in India after Ashoka.

The territories of the Mughul subas in deccan extending up to Mysore and Madurai in the south, the Narmada river and Hoshangabad in the north and Rameshwaram, Rajamahendri and Sirikakulam in the east, up to Pune and Kolhapur in the west. Mughuls ruled over an area of Deccan including parts of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

In the eighteenth century Mughals formed the Administrative divisions under Nizam-ul Mulk Asaf jah. The territorial jurisdiction of the Mughuls in the south was divided into six subas Viz., Aurangabad, Muhamadabad, Khandesh, Berar, Bijapur and Hyderabad. Each of these six subas were sub divided into a number of sarkars and each sarkar was further subdivided into paraganas.

1. Suba of Khujistabunyad (Aurangabad)- In this suba there were 12 sarkars and 138 mahals (paraganas).
2. Suba of Muhammadabad (Bidar, parts of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh) -In this suba there were 7 sarkars and 76 paraganas.
3. Suba of Khandesh (parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra)- In this suba there were 4 sarkars and 134 paraganas.
4. Suba of Berar (parts of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra) -- In this suba there were 22 sarkars and 22 paraganas.
5. Suba of Darul Zafar (Bijapur and parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu) - In this suba there were 18 sarkars and 281 paraganas.
6. Suba of Farkhundabunyad (Hyderabad, Parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Orissa) - In this suba there were 42 sarkars and 405 paraganas.

The greatest extent of the rule of the Mughals in Deccan during 1657 A.D to 1757 A.D is shown in map 22.



# The Mughals in Deccan (1657 A.D - 1757 A.D)





## The Nayakas of Chitradurga (1568 A.D - 1799 A.D)

The heroic Nayakas of Chitradurga occupy a special place in the history of the region in and around Chitradurga. A huge hill fort of Chitradurga is reminiscent of their rule and might. The Nayakas of Chitradurga known for their fierce fighting ability ruled from 1568 to 1779 A.D., for around 210 years. It is believed that they belonged to Valmiki Gotra, Kamageti Vamsha and worshiped Nirathadi Ranganatha, the family deity. Thimmanna Nayaka of Matti was the first among the Nayakas who was put in charge of Hiriya and Chitradurga by Saluva Narasimha of Vijayanagara empire. Thimmanna Nayaka is said to have laid the foundation for the fort at Chitradurga in 1538 at the instance of Achyutharaya, the emperor of Vijayanagar.

The rule of earlier Nayakas was replete with internal skirmishes and coups which resulted in the killing of a few of them. Their relationship with the Marathas was delicately balanced as there had always been a threat of onslaught from Mughals which was unpredictable. On occasions they have valiantly fought the Mughal army.

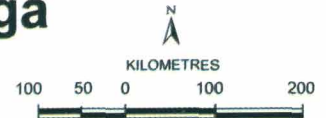
It was Bharamappa Nayaka of Billichodu, the greatest among the rulers of Chitradurga who brought stability and development. He ruled during 1689 and 1721 A.D. Bharamasagara and Bheemasamudra tanks are among his famous developmental works which exist even today. The youngest son of Bharamappa Nayaka, Madakari Nayaka was another prominent ruler known for his fighting as well as administrative abilities and ruled during 1754-1779 A.D. Though he braved Haider on more than one occasion, a few of his own treacherous officers bribed by Haider brought about his fall. He was taken captive and killed in 1779 A.D. With the capture of Chitradurga fort, the rule of Nayakas ended in March 1779. The courage displayed by Onake Obavva in fighting the Haider's army has always been a source of inspiration. She belonged to the period of Madakari Nayaka the last ruler among the Nayakas of Chitradurga. Obanna Nayaka (1588-1602 A.D), Kasturi Rangappa Nayaka I (1602-1652 A.D), Madakari Nayaka (1652-1674 A.D), Obanna Nayaka II (1674-1675 A.D), Chikkanna Nayaka (1676-1686 A.D), Madakari Nayaka III or Linganna Nayaka (1686-1688 A.D), Madakari Nayaka IV (1721-1748 A.D) and Kasturi Rangappa Nayaka II (1748-1758 A.D) were important rulers.

The Nayakas of Chitradurga ruled over Hiriya, Chitradurga, Mayakonda, Santhebennur, Anaji and a few other places. Though their extent of rule was limited as compared to other dynasties and rulers, their gallantry and heroic deeds have left an indelible impression in the minds of people.

The largest extent of the Nayakas of Chitradurga during 1568 A.D to 1799 A.D is shown in map 23.



# The Nayakas of Chitradurga (1568 A.D - 1779 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Harapanahalli	Harpanahalli

## The rule of Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan (1761 A.D - 1799 A.D)

In the later part of eighteenth century A.D., Haider Ali and his son Tipu Sultan ruled over southern Deccan from 1761 A.D to 1799 A.D. for about forty years. They were notable rulers in southern India and Karnataka.

The rule of Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan extended from Kittur and Badami in Karnataka and Adoni and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh in the north, up to the Tiruvannamalai, Madurai and Dindigal in Tamil Nadu in the south, and up to the Calicut, Kasargod and Malabar west coast in Kerala, sea shore of Karnataka till the borders of Goa.

Haider Ali was a horseman and an ordinary captain in the army of Odeyar Nanjaraja. He rose to eminence during the siege of Devanahalli in 1747, when he demonstrated his daring and talent. Haider's coolness and courage during the hostilities attracted the notice of Nanjaraja, who gave him the command of fifty horses and two hundred soldiers, with orders to recruit and augment his corps and also appointed him to the charge of one of the gates of Devanahalli, then a frontier fortress of Mysore.

Haider Ali ruled Mysore from 1761 to 1782 A..D. He was an able and a real military ruler. He came to power at a critical time in Indian history, while Krishnaraja II remained a mere nominal sovereign. He conquered the rich kingdom of Bidanur in 1763 and Malabar in 1766 and he then became master of the entire land between Mangalore and Cochin. He ruled Banavasi, Kolar, Gurramakonda, Kodagu and Malayala, Bellary and Gutti and up to the northern boundary of the Krishna river. He desired to make Bidanur his second capital, and gave it the name of Haider-Nagar. His capital was the present Shrirangapattana. He conquered Madakasira and defeated the Chitradurga Palyaghars. He expanded his territories to include modern Erode and Coimbatore.

Haider Ali was succeeded by his son Tipu Sultan. Tipu was an independent ruler of southern portions. He was an industrious ruler who himself attended to every branch of administration. His misfortune was that he was pitted against the British government which had endless resources. He faced serious opposition from the Nizam and the Marathas. He did not find anybody to help him in his hour of difficulty while the Britishers were able to win over the Marathas and the Nizam on the occasion of the third and fourth Mysore war, Tipu Sultan had to fight alone. After the third Anglo-Mysore war the territory shrunk and the Tungabhadra became his northern border.

Haider and Tipu ruled over Karnataka and parts of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The domain of Tipu Sultan had included most of the area which is now called Karnataka. They built palaces at Bangalore and Shrirangapattana and the Lalbagh garden at Bangalore. They had a well organized postal system with posts at Shrirangapattana, Bangalore, Chitradurga, Gutti, Sira, Hoskote, Doddballapur, Nandidurga, Rayadurga, Harapanahalli and Penugonda,

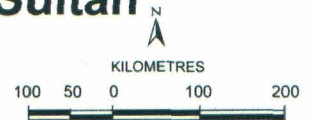
The largest extent of the kingdom of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan during 1761 to 1799 A.D. is shown in map 24.





Emblem of Tipu Sultan

# The rule of Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan (1761 A.D - 1799 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bednur	Nagar	Kalkeri	Kalkeri	Nandidurga	Nandi Hills
Vijayanagar	Hampi	Kanakanahalli	Kanakapura	Trivendrum	Thiruvananthapuram
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Madras	Chennai	Seringapatnam	Shrirangapatana
Dorasamudra	Halebidu	Mercara / Merkera	Madikeri	Swadi	Sonda
Gutti	Gooti				

## Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan (1799 A.D)

After the fall of Tipu Sultan, in 1799 A.D. his territory was partitioned. The Nizam was allotted the areas of Ananthapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool. In 1803 Holalkere, Mayakonda and Harihar areas were given to Mysore Odeyars by the British government in exchange for parts of Punganur, Waynad, Yelusavirasime and some other places contiguous to their boundary.

The Britishers placed Mummadi Krishnaraja Odeyar on the throne. A resident was appointed and the British army was stationed for his assistance. The rule of the Odeyar family was revived. Mummadi Krishnaraja Odeyar, the adopted son of the Hindu royal family became the king. As he was a boy of five years, Divan Purnaiah carried on the administration.

The wars of Tipu adversely affected the unity of Karnataka. Three conquering powers, the English, Nizam and Marathas parcelled out the dominions of Mysore and annexed them to their territories. As a result of these, the Britishers retained the coastal districts including Kanara, the northeastern areas viz., Bidar, Gulbarga and Raichur which were handed over to Nizam. The northern parts constituting Bijapur, Belgaum and Dharwad districts were handed over to the Marathas and ultimately incorporated in the Bombay presidency (1818). The British retained Coorg as a separate state which became a commissioner's province (1834). Some districts in the state were added to the Bombay Presidency after the fall of the Peshwa in 1818 A.D.

Kanara and Bellary districts were included in Madras Presidency. Kanara district later was bifurcated into South Kanara and North Kanara, and North Kanara was transferred to the Bombay Presidency (1862) in which old Bijapur, Belgaum and Dharwad districts were already there. Nizam's dominions included Raichur, Bidar and Gulbarga districts of present Karnataka.

Mysore kingdom included the present districts of Shimoga, Davanagere, Chamarajanagar, Chikmagalur, Mandya, Mysore, Bangalore, Bangalore Rural, Kolar, Tumkur, Hassan, Chitradurga. Kodagu was a commissioner's state directly under British administration.

The greatest extent of the Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan during 1799 A.D. is shown in map 25.



# Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan (1799 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Amroati	Amaravati	Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Madras	Chennai
Bednur / Bidanur	Nagar	Devagiri	Daulatabad	Mamalapuram	Mahabalipuram
Bijanagar	Hampi	Henjeru	Hemavati	Nagapatna	Nagapatnam
Canjeevaram	Kanchipuram	Kollagari	Kolhapur	Oranagallu	Warangal
		Kanchi	Kanchipuram		

## The Odeyars of Mysore (1800 A.D - 1831 A.D)

After the death of Tipu Sultan in 1799 A.D, Krishnaraja Odeyar III, known as Mummadi Krishnaraja Odeyar was placed on the throne by Britishers. The capital was shifted to Mysore from Shrirangapattana. Since the prince was too young, a Divan famously known as Divan Poornaiah was appointed from 1799 to 1811 A.D. After which Mummadi Krishnaraja Odeyar ruled till 1831 A.D. for about twenty years.

After fall of Tipu, Britishers decided to appoint one of the Close as Resident. The Mysore kingdom (Tipu's territory) was reduced, the western ghats and eastern ghats were taken away from Mysore. The rest of the territory was returned to the successor of the Hindu royal family and they declared Krishnaraja Odeyar III as the Maharaja of Mysore. They decided to take over the administration of Baramahals, Kodagu and Coastal areas.

The Mysore boundary extended from Kodagu, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada districts in the west, up to the present Andhra Pradesh boundary in the east, and from present Bellary and Haveri districts in the north and up to the present Kollegal taluk and Coimbatore district in the south.

Divan Poornaiah was offered Yelandur as jahgir in 1807 in recognition of his services. He chose the fertile tract of Yelandur on the borders of Mysore and Coimbatore and he resigned from Divan's post in 1811, Rama Rao succeeded him. He built many bridges across the Cauvery river.

At the time of the British assumption and under the Divan Rama Rao, the Mysore was divided into Six Faujdars. Mysore consisted of the following six Faujdars which were subdivided into 101 taluks- viz., Bangalore and Madhugiri - 27 taluks, Chitaldrug - 13 taluks, Ashtagram - 25 taluks, Manjarabad - 11 taluks and Nagar - 25 taluks.

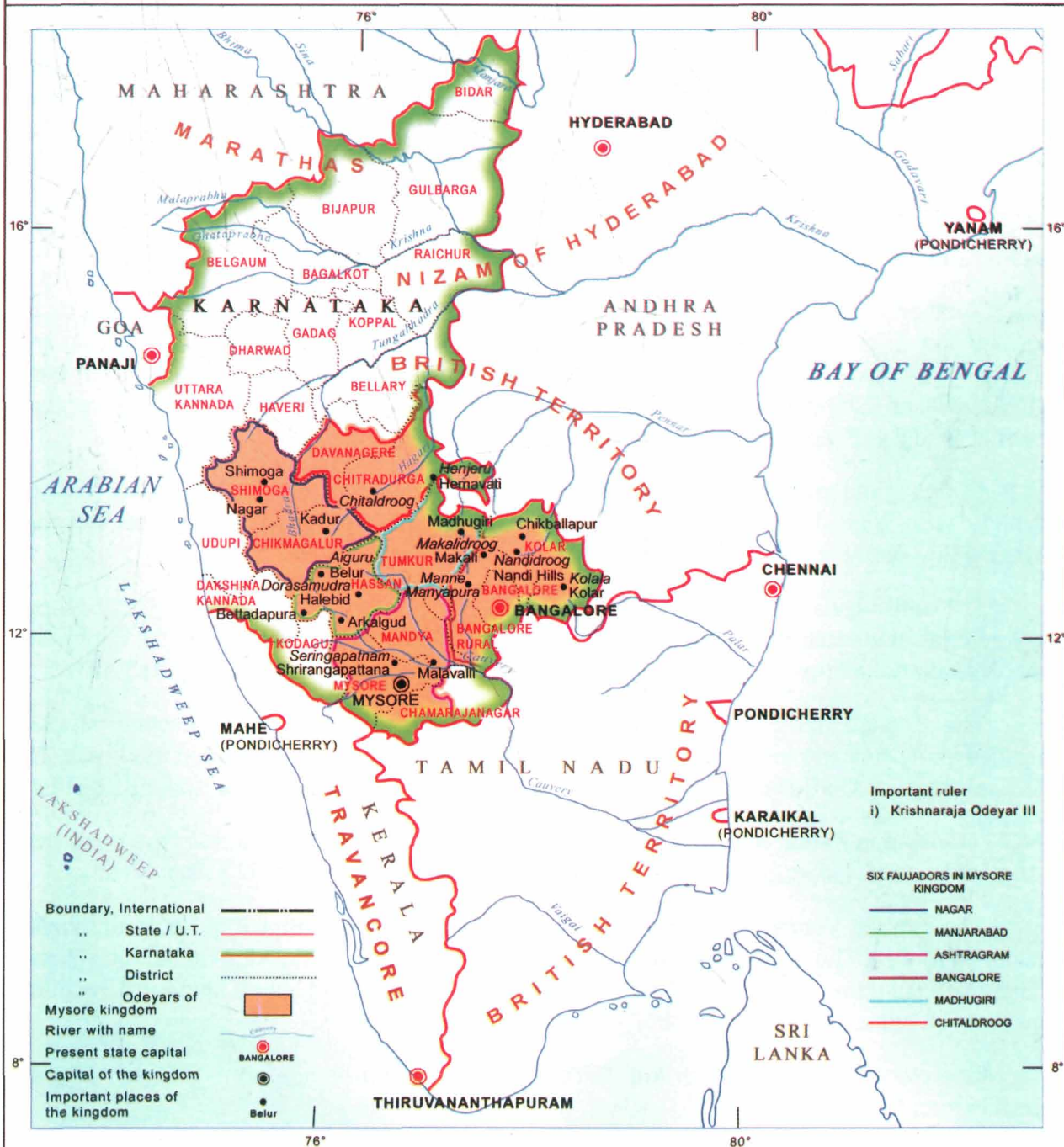
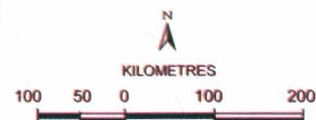
The greatest extent of the Odeyars of Mysore kingdom during 1800 to 1831 A.D. is shown in map 26.





Berunda  
Emblem of Mysore Odeyars

# The Odeyars of Mysore (1800 A.D - 1831 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Aiguru	Belur	Henjeru	Hemavati	Manyapura	Manne
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Kolala	Kolar	Nandidroog	Nandi Hills
Dorasamudra	Halebid	Makalidroog	Makali	Sringapatnam	Shrirangapattana

## Anti- British uprisings in Karnataka (1800 A.D - 1858 A.D)

After the death of Tipu Sulthan the whole of Karnataka came under the control of British rule. As elsewhere, the foreign rule was protested against in Karnataka also. This led to anti British uprisings starting from 1800 A.D to 1858 A.D in several parts of Karnataka.

In the beginning of nineteenth century, the first protest against the rule of the British came in the form of a violent uprising led by Dhondiya Wagh. He had served in the army of Patavardhan of Miraj, the Chattrapathi of Kolhapur and finally under Tippu. He reached Malenadu and raised the banner of revolt against the British. He covered Bidanur and Shikarpur region. He revolted against the British in June 1800 A.D. His men captured Jamalabad, a fort in Dakshina Kannada and Sonda (Sode) in Uttara Kannada, Savanur, Ranebennur, Hangal and Dambal in present Haveri district, Munoli in Belgaum district and Harapanahalli in present Davanagere district.

Another important event of the uprising at Koppal was led by Zamindar Virappa. He acquired the forts of Koppal and Bahadur Banda and surrounding regions. Shivalingayya Deshmukh revolted against the Nizam who was supporting British in 1820 at Suliyally in Bidar district. Diwakar Dikshit, Ravji Raste, Balaji Deshpande and Settyappa Tukkali revolted against British at Sindgi in Bijapur district.

Chennamma revolted against the British at Kittur in Belgaum district in 1824 A.D. Sangolli Rayanna rose against the British in 1829 A.D. Later Gurusiddappa, Shankaranna, Narappa Gajapati, Savaisetty and Rudrappa Kotgi revolted against the British in Kittur.

The uprising was started in Nagar in Shimoga district from 1830 to 1831 AD. Budibasappa revolted against the rule of Mysore in the area, causing the uprising. Honnali was the centre and they captured Kalladurga, Kamanadurga and Chandragutti in Shimoga district in 1833 A.D.

The Kodagu uprising was from 1835 to 1837. Swamy Aparampara revolted in 1835. Kalyanaswamy claiming to be a member of the royal family of Kodagu, continued the revolt. The revolt spread over the Bellare, Sullya, Puttur, Bantval, Mangalore in Dakshina Kannada district.

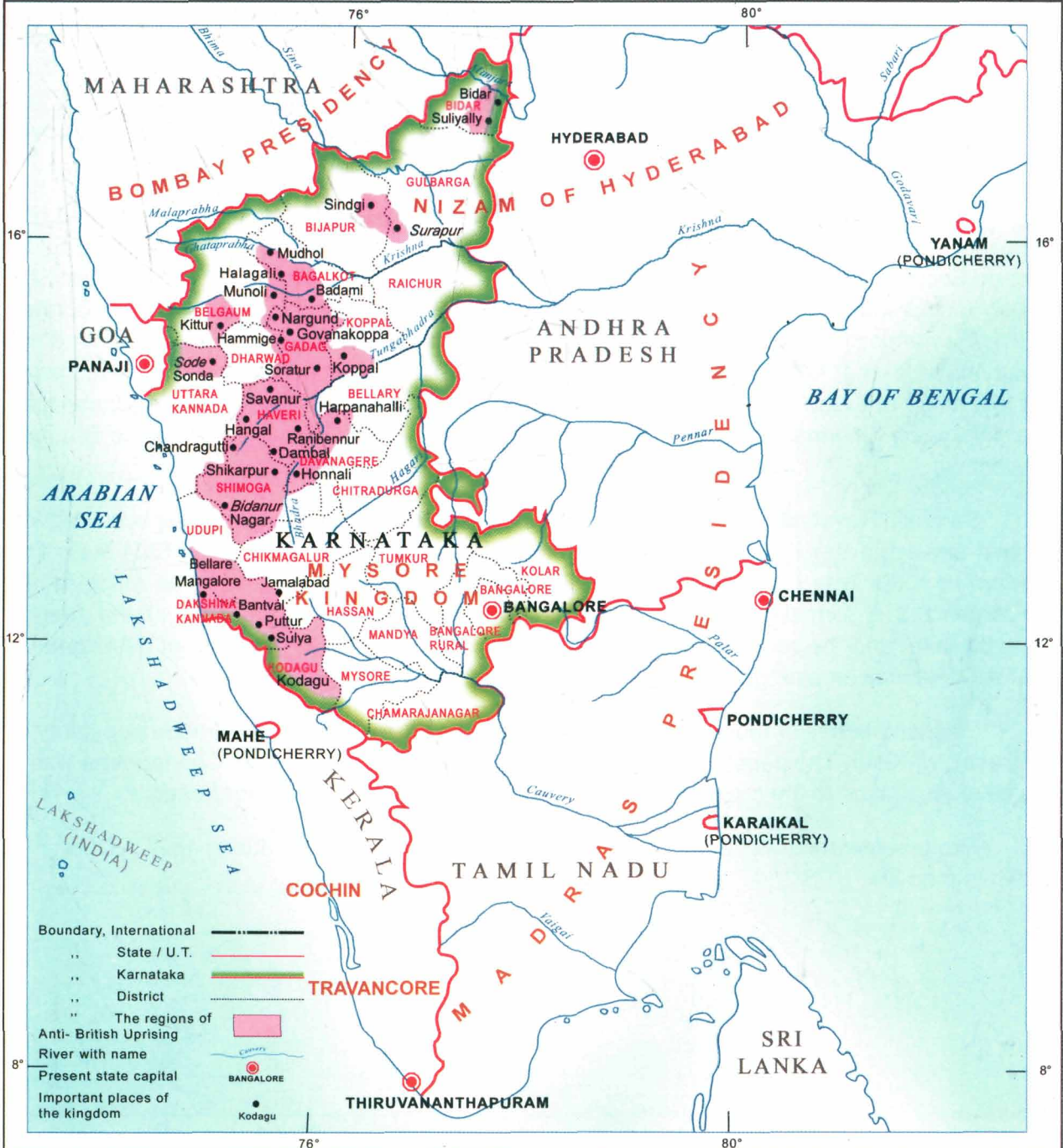
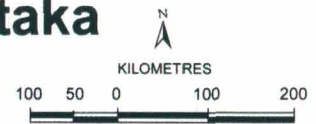
Narasappa Petkar who was in the service of the Nayaka of Surapur, lead the next revolt in 1841 at Badami. Lingappa revolted against the Nizam and British in 1852 at Bidar district.

The princes, Venkatappa Nayaka of Surapur and Bhaskarrao Bhawe of Nargund rebelled against the British. The Bedas of Halagali in Mudhol taluk revolted against the British. The Desais of Hammige, Dambal, Soratur and Govanakoppa in Dharwad district led by Mundargi Bhimarao rose in revolt against the British in 1857 – 1858 A.D.

The places associated with Anti British Uprisings in Karnataka from 1800 to 1858 are shown in map 27.



# Anti-British Uprisings in Karnataka (1800 A.D - 1858 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Balam	Aiguru	Sodi	Sonda
Manjarabad	Sakaleshpur	Surapur	Shorapur

## The Desais of Kittur (Later part of 18th century)

The Desais ruled from Kittur in the present Belgaum district in the later part of eighteenth and the early parts of nineteenth century.

Mallasarja Desai was the important ruler of Kittur. After his death his son Shivalingarudra Sarja adopted his relative Shivalingappa as his son before his death. Thakeray, the chief political agent of the British and the collector of Dharwad objected to this adoption and ordered that Shivalingappa was not a member of the Kittur royal family. The Bombay Government took over the administration of Kittur.

The heroic and brave Desayini Rani Chennamma pressed the claim of the adopted boy Shivalingappa and administered the Kittur territory as a regent. She bravely challenged English officers. Securing the support of her loyal and patriotic men she opposed the English troops. She bravely fought with Thakeray and killed him. Many of his officials and members of their families fell into the hands of the Kittur army. But the spirit of freedom and heroism of the Rani inspired her countrymen for long. In December 1824 Chaplin, the British Commissioner collected a huge army and laid siege of Kittur. Chennamma was taken captive and she was imprisoned at Bilahongal. After five years Chennamma died in prison in 1829. Then Kittur was included in the Bombay Presidency.

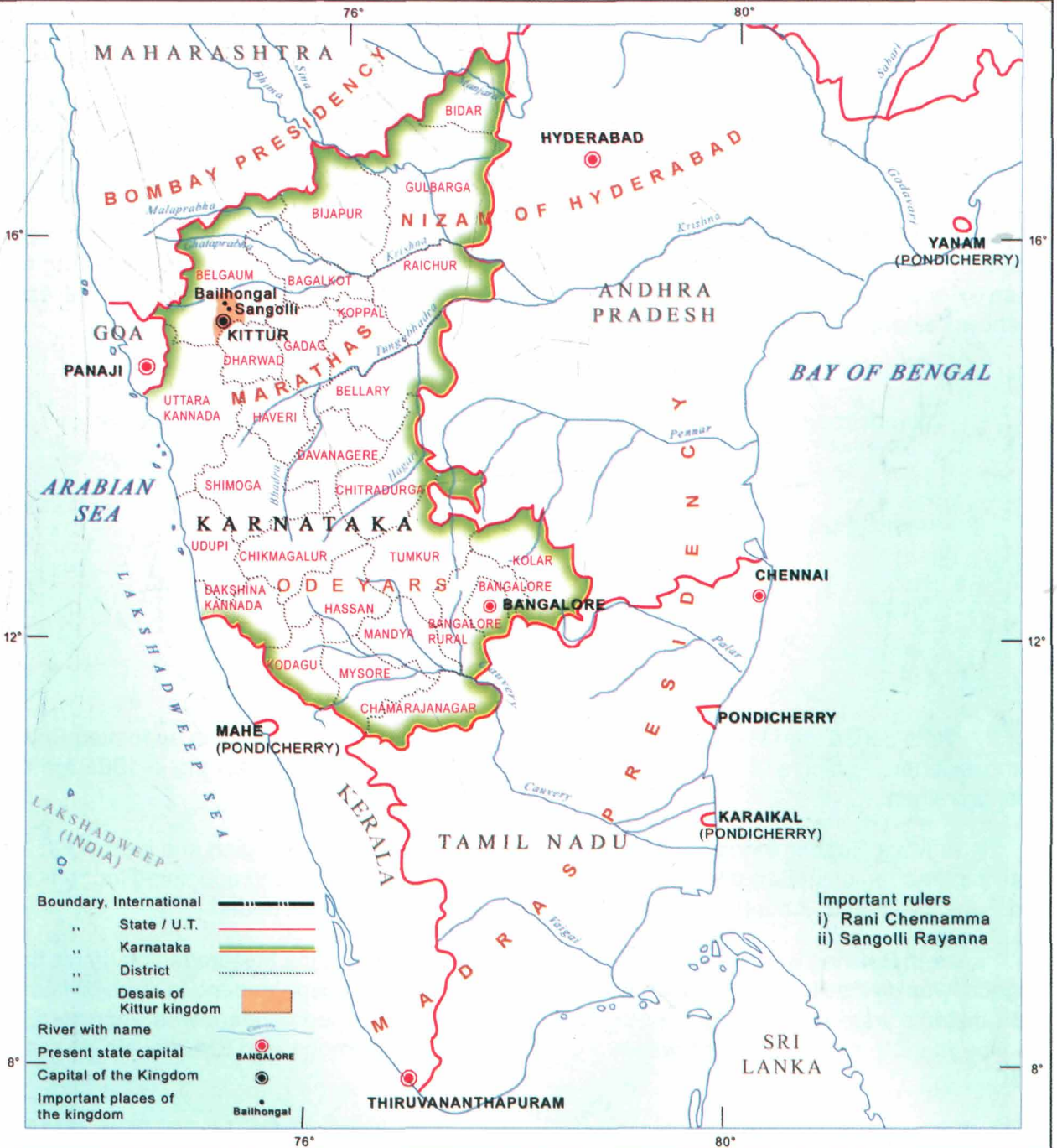
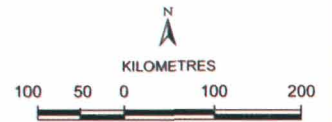
Sangolli Rayanna was a village watchman of Sangolli in present Belgaum district. He had served in the Kittur army. He had bravely participated in the war of 1824 A.D. The freedom of Kittur was his main intention. He upheld the cause of the deprived ruling family and organized a formidable rebellion against the English rule. Later some of the friends betrayed him and helped the British to arrest him and he was hanged at Nandgad in 1831 A.D. He was an ever green patriotic hero of Kittur like Rani Chennamma.

This long series of rebellions in the Kittur territory against British proved the popularity of the Desais of Kittur. The people had hatred in their mind against the British. Chennamma was a source of inspiration to the brave people of Kittur and the later movement for freedom.

The greatest extent of territory under Rani Chennamma of Kittur during 1824 A.D. is shown in map 28.



# The Desais of Kittur (Later part of 18th century)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

**Ancient names**  
 Baillahongala

**Modern names**  
 Baillahongal

**Ancient names**  
 Kitturu

**Modern names**  
 Kittur

## The British rule in Mysore State (1831 A.D - 1881 A.D)

The Britishers took over the Mysore state from Krishnaraja Odeyar in 1831, in which year the state was brought under the direct rule of the British Commissioners. They ruled from 1831 A.D to 1881 A.D for about fifty years. The State capital was shifted to Bangalore by the Commissioner in 1831.

The boundaries of the Mysore state continued to be the same i.e., from the present Kerala, Uttara Kannada, Udupi and Dakshina Kannada in the west, up to the Andhra Pradesh boundary to the east and Coimbatore district in the south, up to the present Bellary and Haveri districts boundaries in the north.

Under the Mysore Commission, the necessary arrangements for giving effect to these orders having been made on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 1840, a proclamation was issued notifying the future extended divisions of the province with eight districts and eighty five taluks attached to each as shown below.

Divisions	Districts	No. of Taluks
Nandidroog	Bangalore	13
	Kolar	11
	Tumkur	09
Ashtagram	Mysore	13
	Hassan	11
Nagar	Shimoga	10
	Kadur	08
	Chitaldroog	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>

In this period Lord William Bentik was the Governor General of India. He appointed British Commissioners / officers of whom Sir Mark Cubbon in 1834 and Lewin Bowring in 1861 are the most prominent.

Sir Mark Cubbon worked for twenty seven years in the Mysore region and he divided the state into four regions - Bangalore, Chitaldroog, Ashtagram and Nagar and appointed four officers and Superintendents. After his retirement in 1861, Lewin Bowring succeeded.

Lewin Bowring was appointed as a commissioner in 1861 to the Mysore region. In his time kingdom was divided into three divisions. Each division had one superintendent. In three divisions, eight districts were created, and in each district one deputy superintendent was appointed. In his time municipal administration was started in Bangalore, Shimoga and Mysore. He retired in 1870.

From 1878 to 1881 Gordon was the chief commissioner. On March 25th of 1881 Chamarajendra Odeyar regained the power. Then the British decided to handover power to him from 25th March 1881.

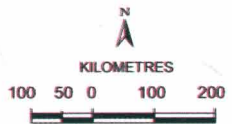
The largest extent of the British rule in Mysore state during 1831 A.D to 1881 A.D is shown in map 29.





Emblem of Britishers

# The British rule in Mysore state (1831 A.D - 1881 A.D)



- Boundary, International  
" State / U.T.  
" Karnataka  
" District  
" Division
- British rule of Mysore kingdom  
British territory  
Nizam of Hyderabad  
Portuguese territory  
French territory  
Other kingdoms
- River with name  
Present state capital  
Important places of the kingdoms
- Legend symbols for boundaries, territories, rivers, and capitals.

Important rulers  
i) The Commissioners

### Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bednur / Bidanur	Nagar	Cudoor	Kadur	Madras	Chennai
Carrical	Karaikal	Colar	Kolar	Nandidoorg	Nandi Hills
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga			Toomkoor	Tumkur

## The formation of Administrative Divisions in 1857 A.D

In 1857 A.D, the British Governor General formed new sub-divisions or districts in Karnataka and other states in India.

They classified three major political sub-divisions in Southern India.

1. British territories - included Bombay Presidency and Madras Presidency and Ceylon regions,
2. Hindu and other territories - included Mysore Princely state, parts of Satara Jahgirs, Southern Maratha Jahgirs, Travancore native state and other independently ruled Hindu states.
3. Muslim territories - included the Hyderabad Nizams Dominions

The territorial jurisdiction of Karnataka was divided into four major territories. Each of these were sub divided into number of sub-divisions or districts.

1. Mysore state - in this territory there were four sub-divisions viz., Nagar, Astagram, Chitaldroog and Bangalore.
2. Hyderabad Nizams Dominions - in this Muslim territory there were two sub divisions viz., Bidar and Gulbarga.
3. Bombay and Madras Presidencies - in this British territory there were nine sub-divisions viz., Coorg, South Kanara, North Kanara, Dharwar, Belgaum, Sholapur, Moodgal, Bellary and Raichur.
4. Southern Maratha and Satara Jahgirs –parts of Kolhapur, Meeraj, Mudhol, Ramdurg and Jamkhadi were included in this territory.

The extent of the Administrative Divisions in 1857 A.D is shown in map 30.



# The formation of Administrative Divisions in 1857 A.D



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Bednur / Bidanur	Nagar	Madura	Madurai	South Kanara	Dakshina Kannada
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Modogoulla / Moodgul	Mudagal	South Konkan	Ratnagiri
Coorg	Kodagu	North Kanara	Uttara Kannada	Saidaput	Chingalput
Koolbarga	Gulbarga	North Konkan	Tannah	Tiruvad	Travancore



## Again the Odeyars of Mysore (1881 A.D - 1947 A.D)

On 25th March 1881 by the Rendition order, Mysore was returned to Sri Chamarajendra Odeyar. Its position as an Indian state was assured with good administration. The Maharaja Chamarajendra Odeyar was placed on the throne at Mysore. The ceremony was performed in an impressive manner by the Governor of Madras, who placed the Maharajas' possession of the territories of Mysore and installed him on the throne. He was the first ruler after the Rendition of Mysore in 1881 and he ruled up to 1894. He appointed Rangacharlu as Divan. Bangalore continued to be the administrative capital though the Maharaja stayed at Mysore.

In pursuance of measures of retrenchment, the eight districts containing sixty nine taluks, which existed at the time of rendition, were in 1882 reduced to six districts with sixty taluks. At the same time, as a compensation three sub-divisions under Assistant Commissioners, and seventeen sub-taluks under Deputy Amildars were formed. But these changes proved to be of great inconvenience. In 1886, therefore, the eight districts with somewhat altered limits were restored with sixty six taluks and in consequence of this step only one sub-division and ten taluks remained. In 1891 three more sub-divisions (Sagar, Closepet, and Chikballapur) were formed. In this period the people of Karnataka and the Kannada language were widely dispersed, some under the British Presidencies of Bombay and Madras, others under the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Maharajas of Mysore. Kodagu was a separate entity. In addition parts of present Karnataka was under 12 petty princes.

Sri Chamarajendra Odeyar was succeeded by Sri Krishna Rajendra Odeyar IV in 1894. He was a minor and the queen mother Vanivilasa Sannidhana was the regent. In 1902 Krishnaraja Odeyar IV was placed on the throne at Mysore. The Chief Commissioner of Mysore became the Resident in Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg. The district and taluk boundaries were generally altered, invested with full ruling powers by Lord Curzon at Mysore in 1902. His period is called the *golden age of Mysore*. He was the Chancellor of Mysore University, at the time Mahatma Gandhi visited Mysore. He appointed Krishna Murthy, P. Madhava Rao, T. Ananda Rao, Sir M. Visweshwarayya, Kantaraj Urs, A. Banerjee and Mirza Ismail as Divans of model princely Mysore state.

In 1940 Sri Jayachamaraja Odeyar ascended the throne as the ruler of Mysore state till 1947. In October 1947 responsible government was founded, the Maharaja was called Rajpramukh. The *Rajpramukh* continued till the formation of the new state till November 1956.

The topographical survey was commenced in April 1886, and was carried out by officers of the Survey of India under the order of the Surveyor General. Triangulation was completed in 1884-85, and the detailed topographical survey in September 1886. The total cost of the operation was 8.75 lakhs, the survey was on the scale of one inch to a mile, except in the case of the state forests, which were on the four inch scale. In 1882 Railway line was started from Bangalore to Mysore, Bangalore and Gubbi, Bangalore to Hindupur, in 1891 Mysore to Nanjangud, Bangalore to K.G.F and in 1899 Birur- Shimoga railway line was extended. In 1890 there were 131 courts subordinate to the chief court. During this period Swami Vivekananda visited Mysore.

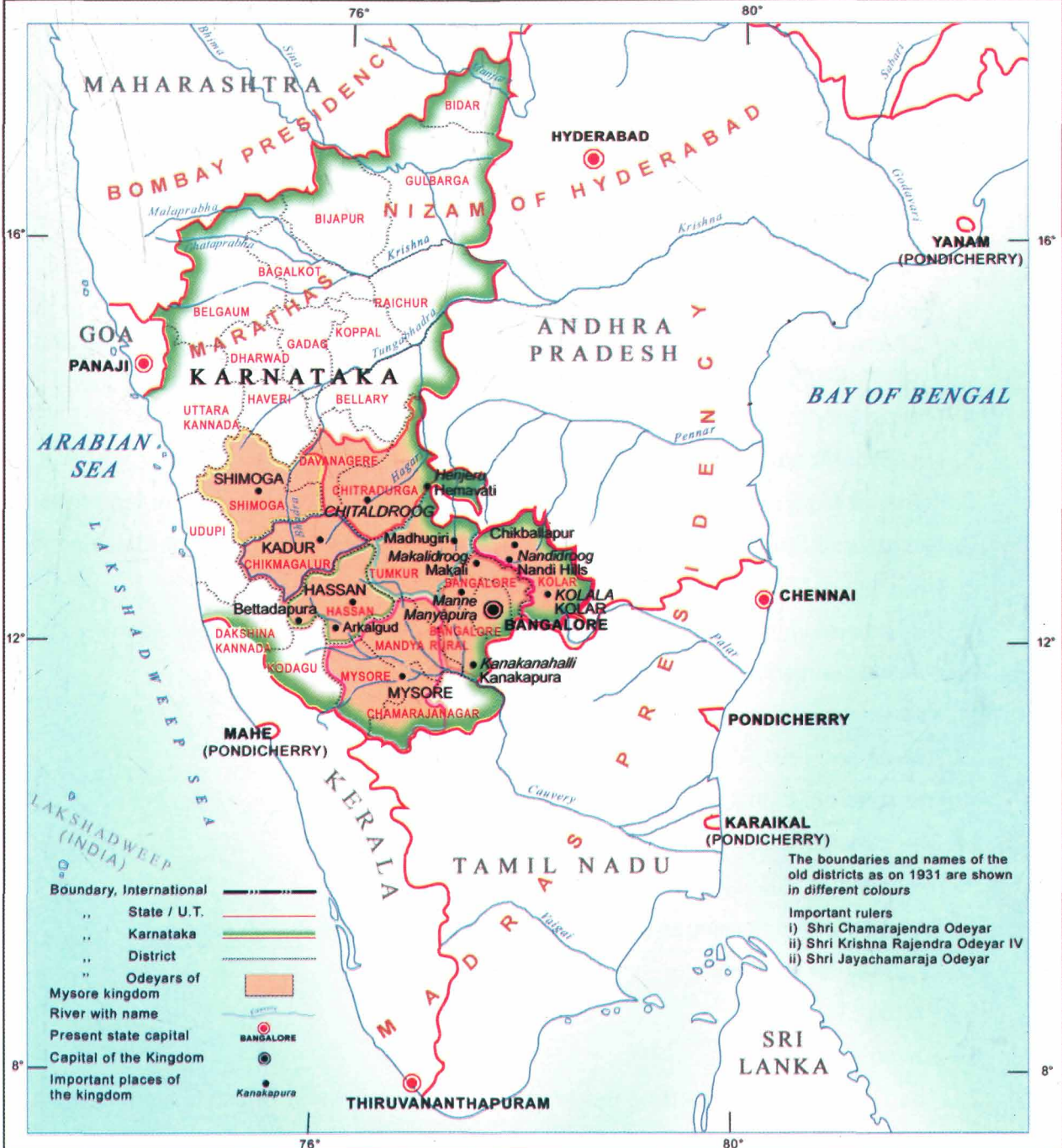
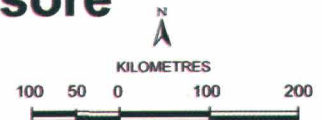
The largest extent of the kingdom of Odeyars of Mysore during 1881 A.D to 1947 A.D. is shown in map 31.





Emblem of Mysore Odeyars

# Again the Odeyars of Mysore (1881 A.D - 1947 A.D)



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	M. modern names	Ancient names	M. modern names
Chitaldroog	Chitradurga	Kanakanahalli	Kanakapura	Manyapura	Manne
Henjeru	Hemavati	Kolala	Kolar	Nandidroog	Nandi Hills
		Makalidroog	Makali		

## Kannada speaking people under different Administrative units, 1912

In the wake of formation of separate provinces like Assam, Bihar and Orissa on linguistic basis in 1912 A.D. The demand for the formation of separate provinces on linguistic basis and the demand for a unification of the Kannada speaking regions into one administrative unit or province was on the rise.

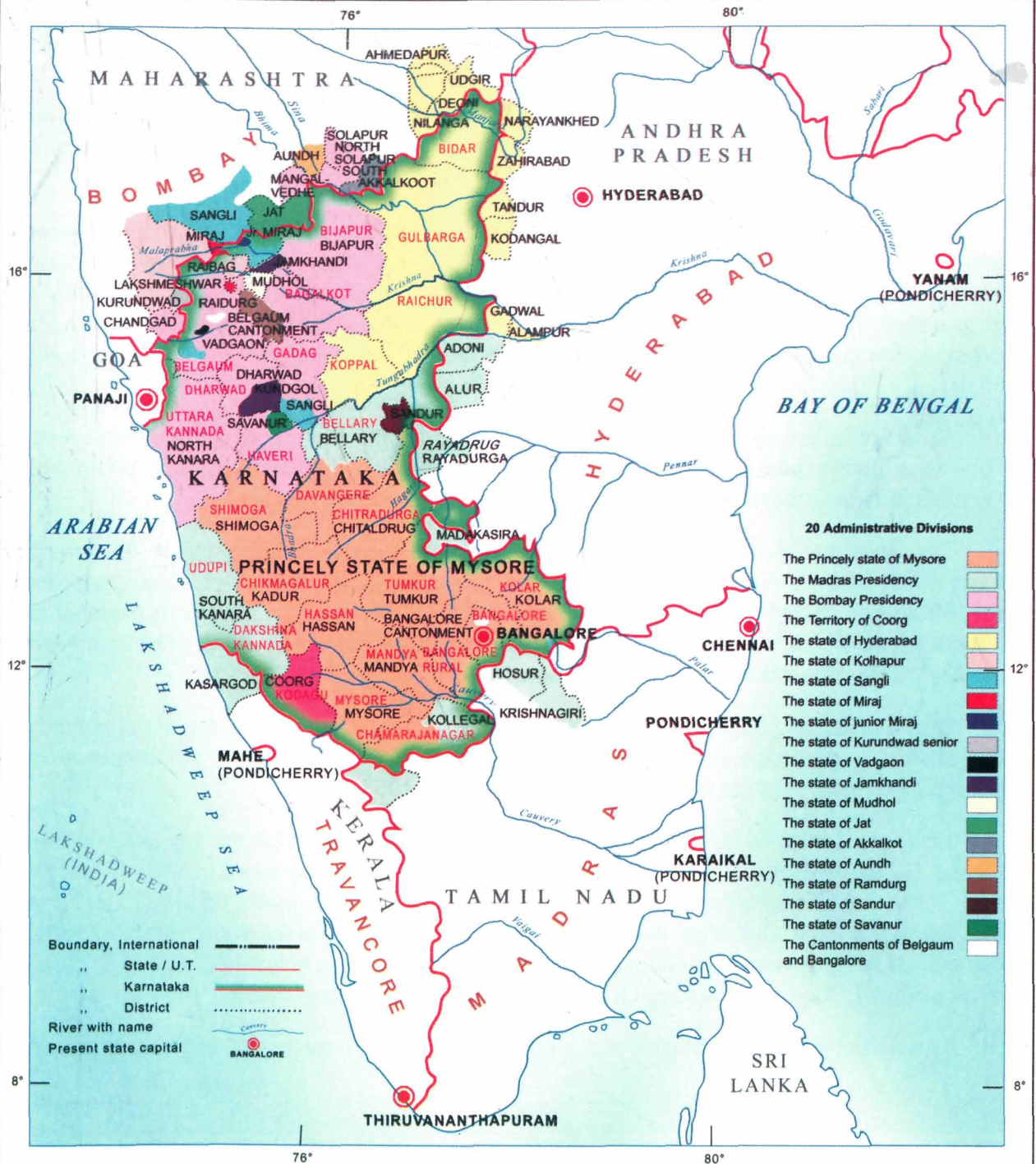
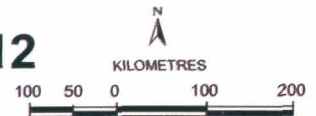
At that time, the areas inhabited by the Kannada speaking people which were under the twenty administrative divisions are as given below:

1. The princely state of Mysore included the districts of Bangalore, Mysore, Mandya, Kolar, Tumkur, Hassan, Kadur (Chikmagalur) Chitradurga and Shimoga.
2. The Madras presidency included districts of the Nilgiris, Dakshina Kannada, Bellary and taluks of Kollegal, Krishnagiri, Hosur and Madakasira
3. The Bombay Presidency included the districts of Uttara Kannada, Belgaum, Dharwad and Bijapur and Taluks of South and North Solapur, Mangalavedhe and other neighbouring Kannada territories.
4. The territory of Kodagu (Coorg).
5. The Hyderabad state included districts of Gulbarga, Bidar and Raichur
6. Kolhapur state included the territories of Raibag, Katkol, Torgal and other territories.
7. The state of Sangli and its possessions like Shahpur and Shirahatti, Therdal, etc.
8. The state of Miraj with other belongings like Lakshmeshwar.
9. The state of Junior Miraj (Bhudhagaon) and its other territories like Gudageri.
10. Kurundwad senior with areas near Bijapur.
11. Karundwad junior or Vadagaon (near Belgaum)
12. The state of Jamakhandi with Kundagol.
13. The state of Mudhol.
14. The state of Jatt.
15. The state of Akkalakot.
16. Gunadal group of villages (near Bijapur) belonging to the Aundh state.
17. The state of Ramadurg.
18. Sandur,
19. Savanur, and
20. The Cantonments of Bellary, Belgaum and Bangalore under British Government

The extent of the 20 Administrative units inhabited by Kannada speaking people in 1912 A.D. is shown in map 32.



# Kannada speaking people under different Administrative Units, 1912



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Chitaldrug	Chitradurga	Dharwar	Dharwad	Rayadrug	Rayadurga
Coorg	Kodagu	Marcara	Madikeri	South Kanara	Dakshina Kannada
Dakshin Kannad	Dakshina Kannada	North Kanara	Uttara Kannada	Uttar Kannad	Uttara Kannada

## Re-organisation of Mysore state in 1956 A.D

### - with 19 districts

Though Karnataka was distributed under 20 administration, the demand for unification of Karnataka was raised by men like Alur Venkatarao. He founded Karnataka Ekikarana Sabha in 1916. The Congress party recognised Karnataka as a separate province and created Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee in 1921.

The Congress session held at Belgaum in 1924. The first Karnataka unification conference was held with Sir Siddappa Kambli as president at the same venue. Freedom movement and unification movement went hand in hand.

But even after freedom, unification of Karnataka was not achieved. When India became free in 1947, smaller princely states were merged into neighbouring districts, and Karnataka came under the control of five administrations namely, Mysore, Kodagu, Hyderabad, Bombay and Madras states. There had to be serious agitation even after this demanding unification. The State Reorganization commission constituted in 1953 recommended the formation of the new state in 1956.

The unification of Karnataka must be counted as the most important achievement of people in the modern period, a small territory of merely nine districts expanded into one consisting of nineteen districts, becoming two and half times larger than it was earlier.

The area and population of the state have more than doubled owing to the changes brought about by the Andhra State Act, 1953 and State Re-organisation Act 1956, the present Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Kodagu, Dharwad, Gulbarga, Uttara Kannada, Raichur and Dakshina Kannada districts and Kollegal taluk were merged with Mysore state. After the changes under States Re-organization Act 1956, the new Mysore State had 19 districts.

By the changes under the Andhra State Act, 1953, Adoni and Alur Taluks of Bellary district were transferred to Kurnool district and Rayadurga taluk of Bellary district to Anantapur district, and remaining Bellary district was merged with Mysore in 1953.

Changes under State Reorganisation Act 1956 affected Belgaum, Mysore, Dakshina Kannada, Gulbarga, Raichur and Bidar districts. Chandgad Taluk was taken away from Belgaum district, Kasaragod Taluk and Amindivi Islands from Dakshina Kannada districts, Tandur and Kodangal taluks from Gulbarga district, Alampur and Gadwal Taluks from Raichur districts, Narayankhed, Udgir, Nilanga, Ahmedapur and Zahirabad Taluks and Nyalkal Circle of Bidar taluk from Bidar district. Mysore district got Kollegal taluk from Coimbatore district.

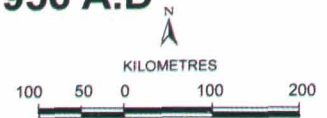
The extent after the formation of the present state of Karnataka in 1956 A.D. is shown in map 33.





Emblem of Karnataka

# Re-organisation of Mysore state in 1956 A.D - with 19 districts



## Ancient and Modern names of important places

Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names	Ancient names	Modern names
Chitaldrug	Chitradurga	Dharwar	Dharwad	Rayadrug	Rayadurga
Coorg	Kodagu	Marcara	Madikeri	South Kanara	Dakshina Kannada
Dakshin Kannad	Dakshina Kannada	Mysuru	Mysore	Uttar Kannad	Uttara Kannada
		North Kanara	Uttara Kannada		

# The Karnataka state

## - Formation of new districts from 1986 A.D to 1997 A.D

From 1<sup>st</sup> November 1973 the state of Mysore was named as 'KARNATAKA'. A resolution was moved by the then honourable Chief Minister, Sri D. Devaraj Urs, and it was unanimously passed by the two houses of the Mysore legislature amidst enthusiastic celebrations. Seventeen years after unification, the unified state was renamed as Karnataka. It had 19 districts.

A new district was created by the Government of Karnataka vide Notification No. RD 35 LRD 86 dated 21<sup>st</sup> July 1986, by altering the limits of the erstwhile Bangalore district and from the areas excluded there from. Bangalore district prior to the creation of the new district of Bangalore Rural comprised of 11 taluks. Eight of these taluks were included in the newly formed Bangalore Rural district, leaving of three taluks viz., Anekal, Bangalore North and Bangalore South in Bangalore district. The changes have occurred in the jurisdiction of some of these taluks which are, 73 revenue villages from Dasanapura Hobli of Nelamangala Taluk and 52 revenue villages from Jala Hobli of Devanahalli taluk was transferred to Bangalore North taluk and Tavarakere Hobli comprising of 51 revenue villages of Magadi taluk and Bidarahalli Hobli comprising of 63 revenue villages of Hoskote taluk were transferred to Bangalore South taluk. With the formation of Bangalore and Bangalore Rural districts, the number of districts in the state rose from 19 to 20.

In 1997, seven new districts viz., Chamarajanagar from erstwhile Mysore district, Davanagere from erstwhile Chitradurga, Bellary and Shimoga districts, Bagalkot from erstwhile Bijapur district, Gadag and Haveri from erstwhile Dharwad district, Udupi from erstwhile Dakshina Kannada district and Koppal from erstwhile Raichur district were carved out vide Government Notification No. RD 42 LRD 87 Part-III Bangalore dated 2.8.1997. There are therefore now 27 districts in the state.

28 villages of Karkal taluk (Mudbidri firka) of Udupi district have been transferred to Mangalore taluk of Dakshina Kannada district vide Government of Karnataka Notification No. RD 42 LRD 87 Part-III Bangalore dated 25.3.1998.

The Karnataka state after the formation of new districts is shown in map 34.





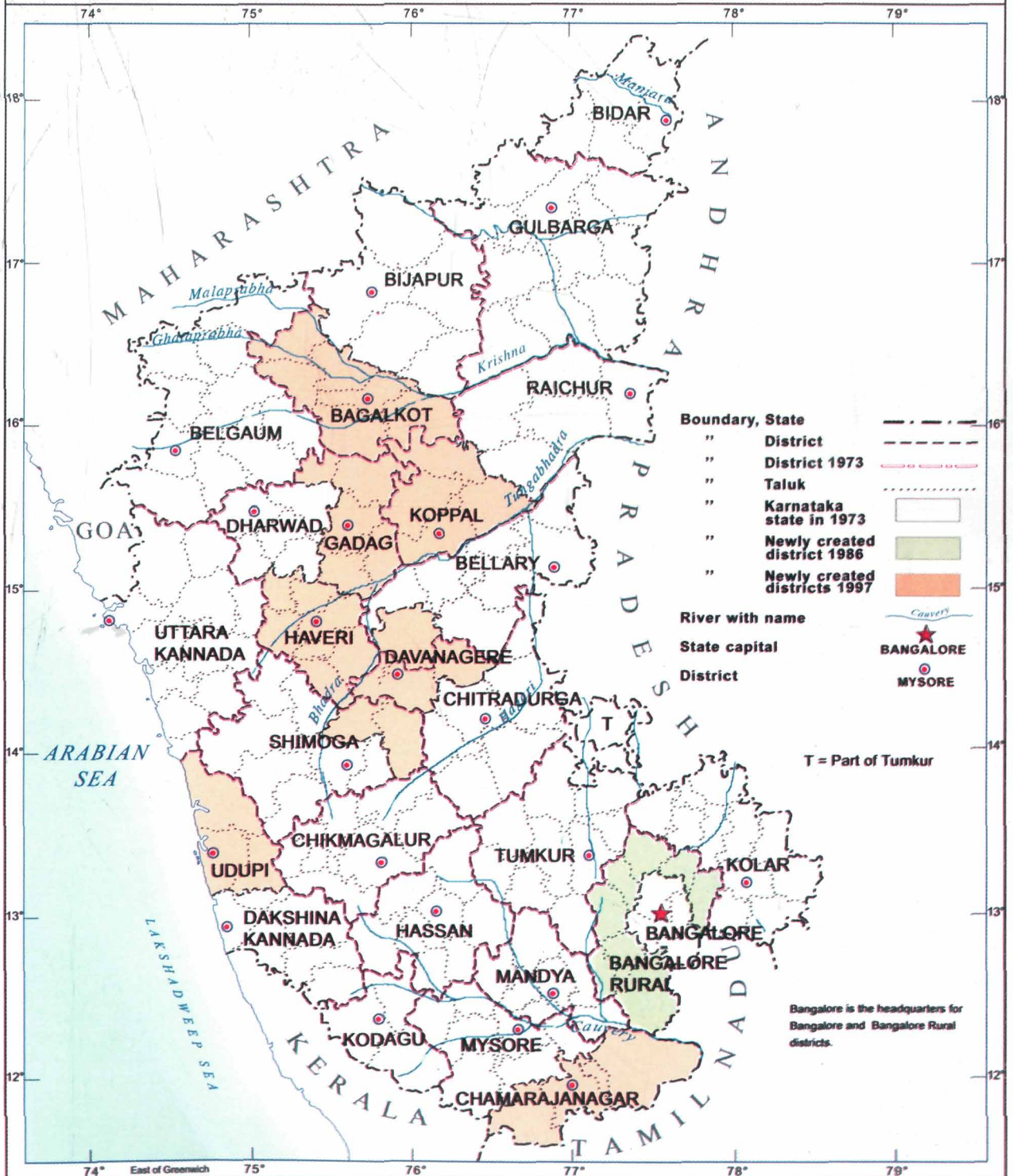
Emblem of Karnataka

# The Karnataka state

## - Formation of new districts from 1986 A.D to 1997 A.D



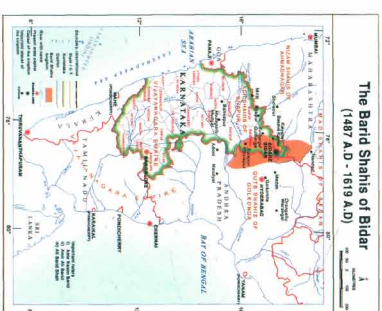
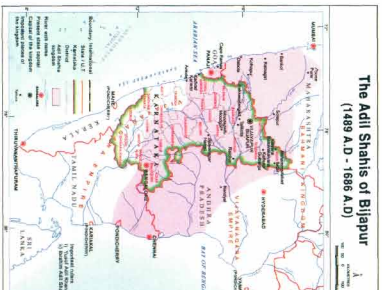
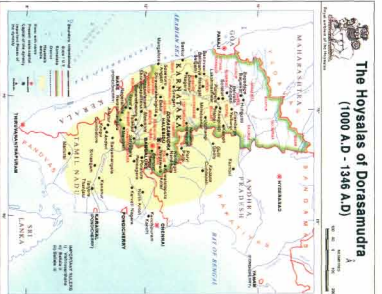
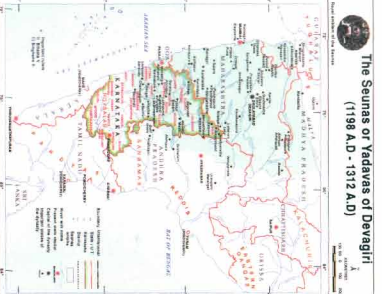
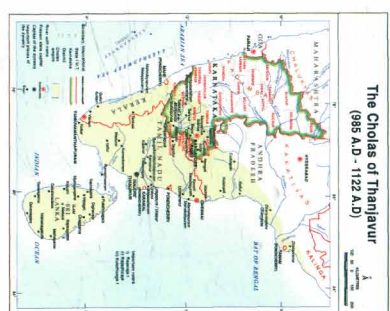
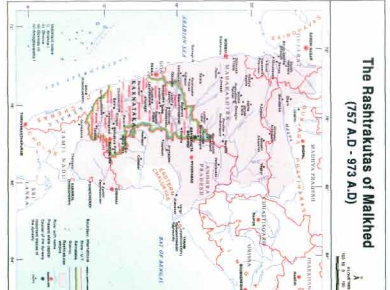
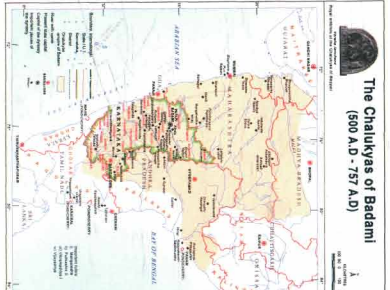
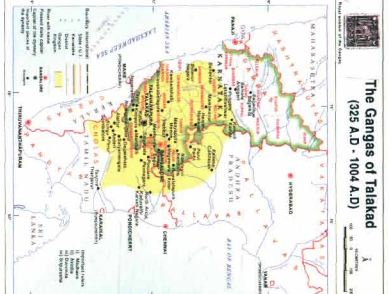
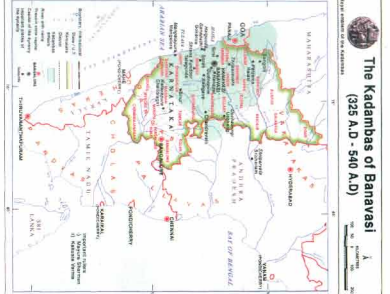
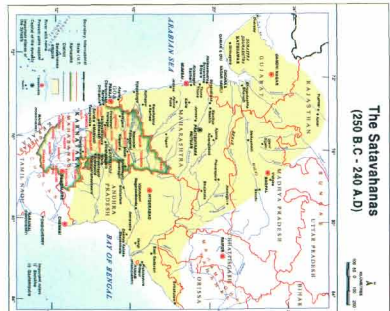
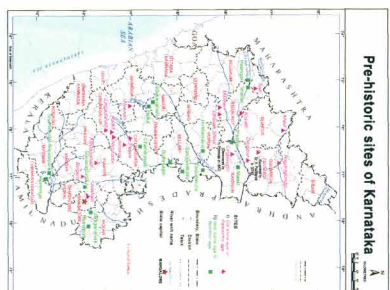
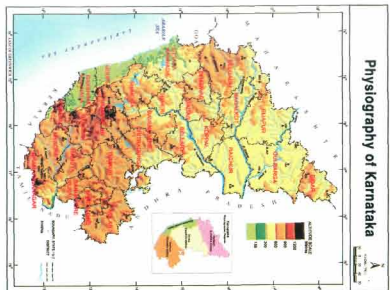
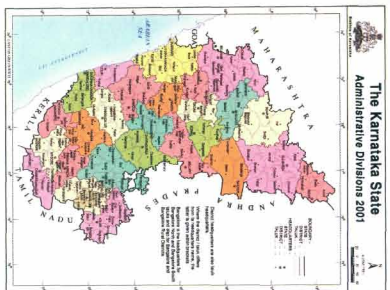
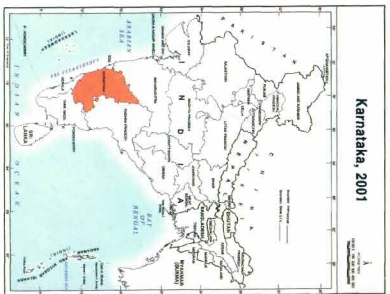
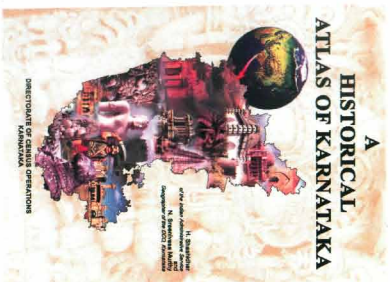
20 10 0 20 40 60  
KILOMETRES





# A HISTORICAL ATLAS OF KARNATAKA - MAPS AT A GLANCE

## FROM 250 B.C TO 2001 A.D

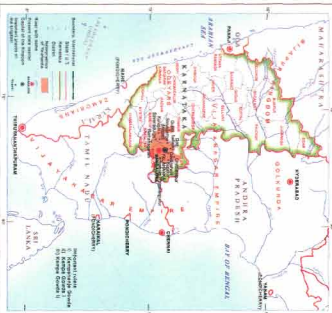




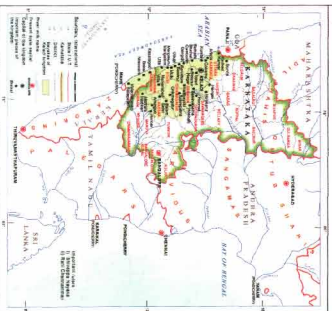
# A HISTORICAL ATLAS OF KARNATAKA - MAPS AT A GLANCE

## FROM 250 B.C TO 2001 A.D

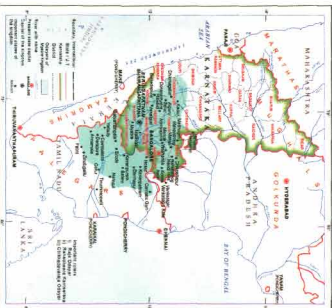
The Nidadprabus of Vejahanka  
(1450 A.D - 1728 A.D)



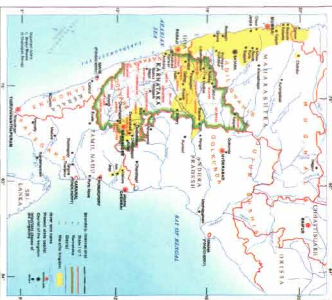
The Nayakas of Keladi  
(1500 A.D - 1763 A.D)



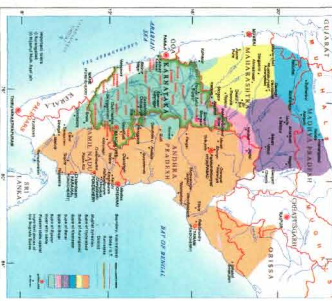
The Odeyars of Mysore  
(1389 A.D - 1761 A.D)



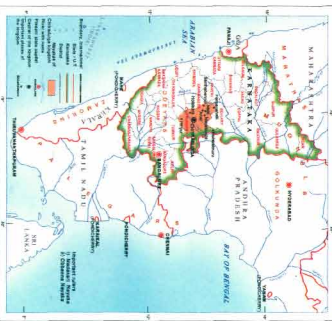
The Marathas  
(1537 A.D - 1687 A.D)



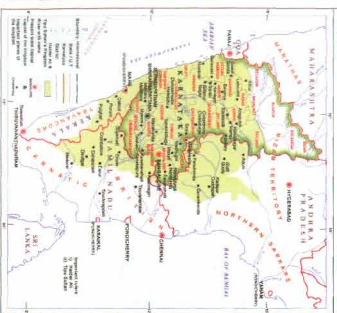
The Mughals in Deccan  
(1657 A.D - 1757 A.D)



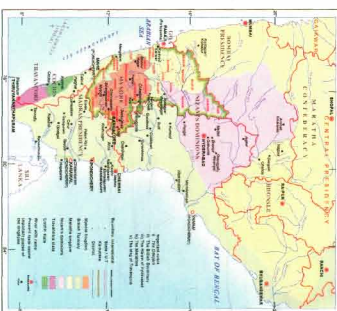
The Nayakas of Chitradurga  
(1586 A.D - 1773 A.D)



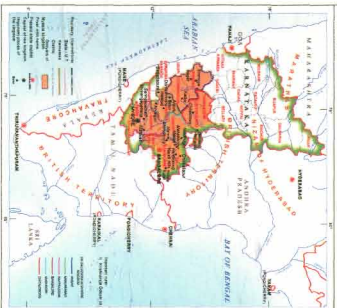
The rule of Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan  
(1781 A.D - 1799 A.D)



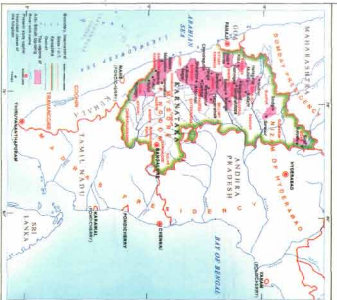
Karnataka, after the fall of Tipu Sultan  
(1799 A.D)



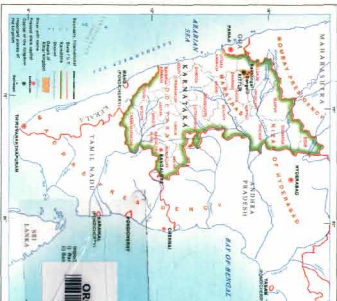
The Odeyars of Mysore  
(1800 A.D - 1831 A.D)



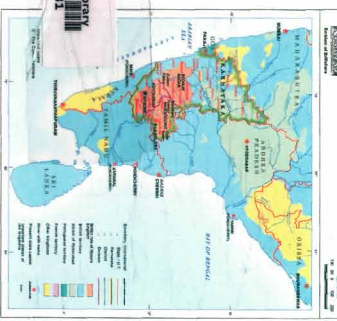
Anti - British Uprisings in Karnataka  
(1800 A.D - 1858 A.D)



The Desais of Kittur  
(later part of 18th Century)



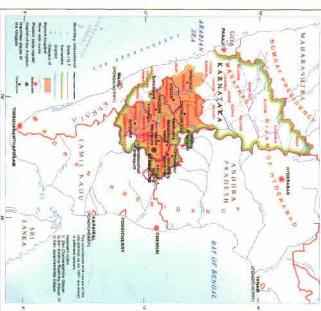
The British rule in Mysore State  
(1831 A.D - 1881 A.D)



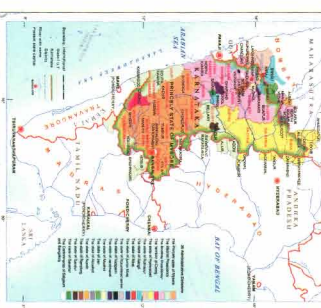
The formation of Administrative Divisions  
in 1957 A.D



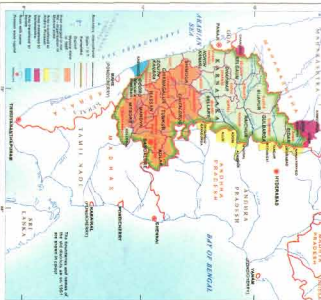
Again the Odeyars of Mysore  
(1881 A.D - 1947 A.D)



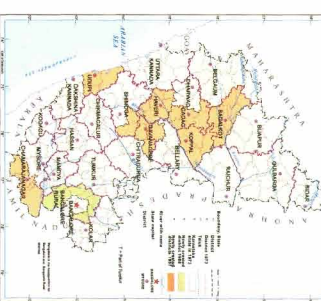
Kannada speaking people under  
different Administrative units, 1912



Re-organisation of Mysore State in  
1956 A.D. with 19 districts



The Karnataka State  
- Formation of new districts  
from 1986 A.D to 1997 A.D



The dynasties and rulers in Karnataka  
on the time scale

